

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 551.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1856.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED 6d.
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ROYAL PANOPTICON.—The celebrated SPANISH MINSTRELS, every Evening, at 8.15; GLIMPSES OF ITALY, by Mr. L. BUCKINGHAM, illustrated by Dioramic Views of Verona, Venice, and Pompeii, at 4.10 and 9.15; GRAND ORGAN, at 1. 3.30, and 8.15; LUMINOUS POUNTAIN, HEINKE'S DIVING APPARATUS, LECTURES ON CHEMISTRY, by Mr. ANSELL, and NATURAL MAGIC, by Mr. MALCOLM, and a Variety of Novelties of a Popular Nature. Admission 1s.; Doors open—Mornings, 12 to 5; Evening, 7 to 10.

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WORKING MEN'S EDUCATIONAL UNION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Members of the Union will be held at No. 25, KING WILLIAM-STREET, STRAND, on TUESDAY, 3rd JUNE, 1856, at 6 P.M., to transact the necessary business of the Union.

BENJAMIN SCOTT, Honorary Secretary.
C. THEODORE JONES, Assistant Secretary.

N.B.—It is not intended to hold a PUBLIC MEETING in connexion with the affairs of the Union at this season, as heretofore.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL UNION.

At a MEETING of the COMMITTEE, held MAY 16, 1856, it was resolved unanimously:—

That this Committee take the earliest opportunity of expressing the gratitude which they feel to Almighty God at the withdrawal of the Sunday Bands from the Parks, whereby a stop is put to the inconsistency of persons in authority, compelling men to break the law by playing for public amusement on the Lord's-day, and, by so doing, setting an example of disobedience and irreligion. At the same time, they offer their hearty thanks to the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Palmerston for the promptitude and energy with which he acted in the matter, upon having his attention called to the violence which was done to the religious feelings of the community by the Sunday performances of the Bands in question.

That this Committee desire to protest against any misrepresentation of their principles or motives. They do not wish to interfere with personal liberty, or in any way to compel religious observances; but, with the lamentable fact so frequently presenting itself to their notice, that the first steps to vice and crime are usually taken by forsaking the means of religious instruction, and forming evil associations on the Lord's-day, they consider that, as the representatives of a large body of persons gratuitously engaged in Sunday-school instruction, they are called upon to exercise all the influence they can exert to sustain the Government in their present laudable determination to preserve the children and youth of the community against any addition to the enticements to Sabbath desecration which already so much abound.

W. H. WATSON,
P. JACKSON,
W. GROSER,
J. FORSAITH, } Secretaries.

A BORIGINES' PROTECTION SOCIETY.

The NINETEENTH ANNUAL MEETING of this Society will be held in CROSBY HALL, BISHOPSGATE-STREET, THIS EVENING.

The Chair to be taken at Half-past Seven o'clock precisely.

VOLUNTARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

The EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING of this Society will be held at CROSBY HALL, BISHOPSGATE-STREET, on WEDNESDAY EVENING NEXT, May 28.

The Chair to be taken at Half-past Six o'clock, by G. W. ALEXANDER, Esq.

Edward Miall, Esq., M.P.; James Bell, Esq., M.P.; Frank Crossley, Esq., M.P.; the Rev. H. Richard, and other gentlemen, are expected to take part in the proceedings of the evening. Doors open at Six o'clock.

NATIONAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

A PUBLIC BREAKFAST in the LONDON TAVERN, BISHOPSGATE-STREET, on THURSDAY, May 22, at Eight o'clock A.M. Tickets 2s. each.

The ANNUAL MEETING, in EXETER HALL, in the Evening of the same day, at Half-past Six; FRANK CROSSLEY, Esq., M.P., in the Chair. Rev. Hugh Allen, M.A., Rev. Dr. Burns, Rev. E. G. Cecil, of Surrey Chapel, Samuel Bowley, Esq., and other speakers, are expected.

Tickets for the Breakfast and Public Meeting to be obtained at Messrs. Cash, 5, Bishopsgate-street Without; W. Tweedie, 337, Strand; and at the Society's Office, 66, Bishopsgate-street Within.

LEAGUE of BROTHERHOOD.

The ANNUAL MEETING and SOIREE of the LEAGUE of BROTHERHOOD and OLIVE LEAF CIRCLES, will be held in the LONDON TAVERN, BISHOPSGATE-STREET WITHIN, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, May 28, 1856.

CHARLES GILPIN, Esq., in the Chair.

Coffee at Half-past Six. Tickets of Admission, Two Shillings.

ORPHAN WORKING-SCHOOL, HAVER-STOCK-HILL.

The ANNUAL EXAMINATION of the Children will take place at the INSTITUTION, on THURSDAY, May 29, after which the Old Scholars will receive the usual Rewards for good conduct.

Tickets may be obtained on application to the Secretary, Governors, and Subscribers, and Ministers will be admitted on presenting their names at the door.

The Chair will be taken at Eleven o'clock precisely.

Office, 39, Ludgate-hill. JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

A CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OR

MINISTER wanting a SUPPLY for the Four Sabbaths following June 20 next, may hear of one on application to Rev. A. B., Post-office, Newport, Monmouthshire.

ANY GENTLEMAN, with a connexion, not

having a charge at present, and able to invest 300l., may receive an APPOINTMENT, bringing in 150l. per annum, with a per centage, by which means he might realise 300l. per annum in addition. Duties gentlemanly and simple.

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The following statement shows the progress of the Company from its commencement, in 1847:—

Period.	Policies.	Amount.
From 1847 to 1851	3,150	£543,303
1852, 3, and 4	3,257	679,351
1855	1,492	238,575
Total	7,899	£1,461,229

JAMES INGLIS, Secretary

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A weekly Allowance of Fifteen Shillings for Injury, or 100L. in case of Death secured by a payment of Ten Shillings.

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THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 551.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1856.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED 5d.
STAMPED .. 6d.

CONTENTS.

PAGE	PAGE
ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS:	Concerts at the Crystal Palace
Gains and Losses	353
Religious Intelligence	354
Correspondence:	
The Opium Trade in China	354
Congregational Union of England and Wales	355
Voluntary Education	355
ANNIVERSARY MEETINGS:	
London Missionary Society	356
London City Mission	357
Home Missionary Society	358
The Peace Society	358
The Peace Celebration	360
The Saturday Half-holiday	360
The Military Inquiry at Chelsea	360
Notes from the House of Commons	362
Conservative Reform	363
Central American Campaign	363
An Important Omission Supplied	363
Parliamentary Proceedings	364
Foreign and Colonial	365
Trial of William Palmer	367
Court, Personal, & Official News	368
Miscellaneous News	369
Literature	369
Gleanings	370
Births, Marriages & Deaths	370
Money Market and Commercial Intelligence	370
Gazette	370
Markets	371

Ecclesiastical Affairs.

GAINS AND LOSSES.

It is more agreeable to most people to vindicate others than themselves. It certainly is to us. Last week, it was our business to say what could be said in defence of the *Nonconformist* against the strictures of our esteemed correspondent, Mr. Herbert Skeats. This week, our task is a pleasanter one. We wish to put in a correct light the conduct of the Executive Committee of the Liberation Society, of Sir William Clay in his management of the Church-rates Bill, and of those members of the House of Commons who are known to the public by the descriptive title of Voluntaries. We shall not need to discuss these topics separately, nor to enter into minute details. Our purpose will be best served by making some general observations calculated to throw light upon the policy and the tactics of all the parties concerned.

It ought to be taken into consideration, then, that the Voluntaries, *as a party*, have been, for the most part, freshmen in Parliament. The position was new to them, and the doctrine they had in charge was new to the Legislature. There were many who narrowly watched them in the hope of their committing an early and irretrievable mistake. Whigs and Tories alike would have been delighted to see them expose their principles, in an abstract form, to immediate and crushing defeat, or ruin their chance of influence by a forward and obtrusive demeanour. It was clearly a wise resolution on their part to disappoint any such expectations—to begin modestly, to make their way imperceptibly, and to leave the House with wholesome truths in a manner as little demonstrative as possible. It was obviously more to the advantage of their cause, whatever it may have been to themselves, to induce others not identified with them to advocate their questions, than to do so themselves. Very much may be done, and something has been done, towards changing the tone of Parliament on certain matters, by methods that never meet the public eye. On the whole, it must be admitted, we think, that a marvellous alteration of that tone has been effected during the last three years—that, too, notwithstanding the engrossing nature of the war in the East. We submit, therefore, that the tactics which have allowed of such a result, cannot have been extremely faulty.

But "the deplorable silence" of the Voluntaries may, possibly, be accounted for, in part, by other causes besides a set purpose. It is a great mistake to suppose that men who have not already reached a high-parliamentary position, can speak whenever they are so inclined. In a deliberative assembly in which there is a considerable number of men competent to say something upon most political questions, and where, by usage and courtesy, the last three or four hours of debate are always given up to the recognised leaders of party, it is not by any means a matter of course, that an intention to address the House can be realised. The toil of studious investigation, and the most anxious lying-in-wait for a chance, are probably rewarded, in the case of

young members, with defeat, five times out of six. Whoever has thus watched for an opening from five o'clock in the afternoon till after ten at night, and has risen during that interval a dozen times to no purpose—more especially if he have previously laboured with assiduity to read up on the subject—may be excused for not exposing himself to a similar frustration of his efforts very frequently during a session. Where the question is merely one upon which he *could* speak if allowed, but upon which it is not absolutely important that he *should* speak, it is, perhaps, as well that he should not often be a competitor with a host of other members. But whatever may be his own choice, it is certain that he will be fortunate indeed if he realises it at the rate of once in four or five trials. He will soon learn that for the first seven years of his parliamentary experience, he will do well to restrict his privilege of speech within that range of subjects which he is known to have studied more fully than most others.

A not very dissimilar misapprehension prevails in regard to the advantage, in case the House will not listen, of speaking "to the reporters." Now, these gentlemen of the press, are accustomed to graduate the fulness of their reports, first by the parliamentary *status* of the speaker, and secondly by the interest which the House itself takes in the speech. But a comparatively young and obscure member will find, after the annoyance to which he has exposed himself in addressing vacant or noisy benches for the best part of an hour, that the report of his speech is given next morning in about a dozen lines which merely indicate the general drift of his observations. Speaking "to the reporters" is oftener than not a rather unpleasant practical illustration of the old adage "Great cry and little wool." The truth is, and it is but fitting that the friends of the Voluntaries in Parliament should know it, that numberless technical and practical obstructions have to be patiently removed out of the way—a thing not to be done within a brief space of time—before it will be possible for those members to employ to the best advantage such measure of ability as they may have. At present, and for some time to come, their efforts cannot be fairly measured by newspaper reports. They may have no reason to complain of special unfairness—but they labour under all the heavy disadvantages of an unfavoured position. They will require time, patience, and constancy, as well as courage and inflexibility of purpose, to win for themselves a command of senatorial opportunities. Their power in the House can only ripen very slowly. The foundations for their ultimate work are not to be laid in a day.

The foregoing remarks may tend to show that prominence in the House of Commons can hardly be obtained, save by means of brilliant genius, or of influential party connexions, without a long and toilsome apprenticeship. But, even as it is, men who have only individual ambition to satisfy, have a vastly easier task than men who have an important truth to serve. The Voluntaries have to struggle, not so much to place themselves in an advantageous position, but to carry with them there a novel and unpopular doctrine. And in our honest judgment, they would scarcely have done justice to their real object, had they allowed themselves to be seduced into a race for personal distinction. For the present, it is their wisdom "to go softly," and, although by so doing they may disappoint the eager but somewhat uninformed expectation of friends who have supreme faith in dash and determination, we are convinced they will leave to those who may come after them a very much easier and smoother task than they would have done by half-a-dozen Balaklava charges.

Perhaps, moreover, it would be but fair to a small band of men in the position of the Voluntaries that when their movements seem most unaccountable, some portion of the mystery should be attributed to the possible ignorance of technical points belonging to those who judge them. An illustration of this is to be found in the letter of our correspondent. He cannot understand why Sir W. Clay, upon being disappointed of one day, did not do as Mr. Miall has done, and choose a

sufficiently distant day to ensure his being first on the list of "orders." To those who know the forms of the House, an answer to the question submitted by our correspondent would be unnecessary. But as few, perhaps, of our readers do so, we will try and make the matter comprehensible. A "notice of motion" and an "order of the day" differ in this—that the former, being the initiatory stage of a measure, is in the hands of the member who takes charge of it—the latter supposes the measure to have passed out of the initiatory and private stage, and to have become an affair of the House itself, who "orders" all its future stages, usually on the motion of the member who introduced it. "Notices of motion" cannot be dated forward beyond a fixed and definite time—a month at most—and members who wish to bring them on, if the ballot fortunately gives them the first choice, can always select the day the furthest removed from that on which they give notice, with a certainty, in such case, of securing the first place for that day. But it is otherwise with "orders." Every member who has passed the initiatory stage, may date the next stage as far forward as he likes. The consequence is, that towards about this period of the session, every "order" day for three months in advance is pre-occupied by some member or other, or by the Government. That Sir W. Clay has been compelled to postpone going into committee on his bill, to days crowded with orders, is his misfortune rather than his fault—and if he has named days on which there is not the least chance of his bringing it on, he has done so only to gain time for plying the Government to give him a day. This we know that both he and the Liberation Society are now doing with the utmost vigour. If they fail, it will be for them to consider whether the bill should not at once be withdrawn, and the responsibility thrown on Her Majesty's Ministers. If they succeed, the criticisms of our correspondent will be most effectually answered.

We will conclude with two or three general remarks. We have known our correspondent too well for many years past, to ascribe to him any other motive than that of wishing to promote by his letter the cause that we have all at heart. He has manfully spoken out what we have no doubt he has reason to believe a good many sincere friends surmise, but only whisper among themselves. His frankness commands not only our respect, but our thanks. But we must put in a claim for a generous exercise of patience and confidence, not for ourselves alone, but for the whole body of men with whom we act. They should be judged of by general results. They are liable to mistakes as all men are. But this we will say for them, that a more sound-hearted and disinterested party we never knew, and we esteem it a singular happiness to act with them, whether they are in or out of Parliament. Their difficulties are far more numerous, and far greater, than mere onlookers can either discern or appreciate. Let them be trusted accordingly—and let time and results decide whether, on the whole, they have been faithful to their trust.

ECCLIASTICAL ENDOWMENTS AND GRANTS IN IRELAND.

The motion of the honourable member for Rochdale stands first on the order-book of the House of Commons for Tuesday next, in the following form:—

Mr. Miall—Religious Teaching and Worship (Ireland)—That this House resolve itself into committee to consider the temporalities of the Irish Church, and other pecuniary provisions made by law for religious teaching and worship in Ireland.

Tuesday is a private members' night, when notices of motion have precedence of orders of the day, and when the Government is neither expected to make, nor keep a House. From all we can learn we believe there is reasonable prospect that there will be such an attendance of supporters of the motion next Tuesday as will prevent a count out, and ensure a full and interesting debate. We believe the question has excited much interest amongst the independent Irish members who are likely to be present in considerable force on

the occasion, and support Mr. Miall with their votes as well as with speech.

Up to the 8th inst., the petitions presented in favour of the removal of all endowments and grants in Ireland amounted to 123, with 9,215 signatures. It will be seen, also, from our other columns that, in addition to the other bodies who have taken up the subject, the Congregational Union adopted a resolution in favour of the motion at their meeting last Friday. We need scarcely again urge that all petitions not yet forwarded should be sent up this week, and that much good may still be done, by personal communication from constituents to their members.

ECCLESIASTICAL PETITIONS TO PARLIAMENT.

From the thirty-third report of the Public Petitions Committee we learn, that up to May 8th, seven petitions, with 264 signatures, had been presented in favour of a new version of the Bible; 7 petitions, with 312 signatures, against the Abolition of Church-rates; 595, with 28,397 signatures, against abolition without an equivalent; 89, with 1,071 signatures, against the Church-rate Abolition Bill; and 95, with 7,780 signatures, in its favour. It will thus be seen that while the opponents of Church-rates have mainly refrained from petitioning, the supporters of the impost have been industriously at work. These petitions came almost exclusively from rural districts, where the clergy are omnipotent. There have been two petitions, with 151 signatures, for preventing desecration of the Lord's-day. The zeal against Maynooth continues very strong, and is evidenced by 484 petitions, with 99,217 signatures. Ninety petitions, with 7,428 signatures, have been presented against Mr. Gibson's Oath of Abjuration Bill; 128, with 9,215 signatures, for Disendowment in Ireland; 177 with 2,379 signatures, for alteration of the Law of Assessment of the Tithe-Rent Charge; 4,989, with 627,824 signatures, against Opening British Museum on Sunday; and 115, with 22,161 signatures, in its favour. Six thousand two hundred and forty persons have petitioned in favour of Opening the Crystal Palace on Sunday.

LAST SUNDAY IN THE PARKS.

The rain which fell during the morning and the early part of the afternoon of Sunday put a stop to much of the proposed demonstrations against the withdrawal of the military bands from the parks and Kensington-gardens. Nevertheless, in consequence of the strong and excited feeling existing among the working classes, the Commissioners of Police caused a considerable force of constables to be in readiness to suppress any tumultuous assemblage, with instructions, however, not to exercise interference unless it became absolutely necessary. The largest number of persons present in Kensington-gardens during the intervals of the heavy showers of hail, rain, and sleet, did not amount to 1,000, and no assemblages took place in the Regent's-park or in Victoria-park worth notice. In Kensington-gardens a concourse of "roughs" banded themselves together, rushing against every respectably dressed person they met, at the same time whistling, hooting, and shrieking, for the purpose of creating confusion and committing robberies. Placards of the National Sunday League were diligently circulated at the entrances to the parks, and handbills announcing public meetings were freely distributed.

The Saturday Half-holiday Committee are taking steps to obtain the services of the bands in the parks on Saturday afternoons.

On Monday evening, a public meeting of the inhabitants of St. Pancras was held in the Vestry Hall, King's-road, Camden-town, for the purpose of eliciting the opinion of the public upon the recent stoppage of the bands in Kensington-gardens and the parks, by order of Government. A letter was read from Mr. Charles Dickens, stating that if it were proposed to organize a movement on the subject he would subscribe 10*l*.

That the performance of music in the public parks on the Sunday afternoon is essentially calculated to promote the health, happiness, and morality of the people; and this meeting hereby expresses its regret and indignation at the sudden withdrawal of so useful and innocent a means of popular enjoyment. (Loud applause.)

Amongst the speakers was Sir B. Hall, who made a very strong speech in favour of the Sunday bands, attacking Mr. Baines and the whole Sabbatarian party:—

But what would the people say when he (Sir B. Hall) told them that a compromise was proposed—(shame)—that he had been actually told that had he been contented with Kensington-gardens, he would not have been interfered with. But what would his constituents have said had he been so hypocritical as to say that that was right in Kensington-gardens which was wrong in Victoria and Regent's-parks? (Hear, hear.) It was his duty as a representative of the people and as a Minister of the Crown, to see that all classes were equally dealt with. He had personally visited the various parks, and could bear testimony to the excellent conduct of those who were essentially the people—so careful were the people of the parks, that it required nothing more than their own good sense to protect them. In giving a band to the people on Sunday, he was under the conviction that he was doing no wrong to God or man. He would ask those who were opposed to him not to condemn because they did not agree on all points. It was with deep regret that he had been compelled to discontinue the recreation he had

provided. One thing in conclusion. He would urge upon the people to continue that conduct which up to this time was so admirable—a continuance of such conduct would at least convince the opponents to the bands that they have been wrong. (Hear, hear.) As to Lord Palmerston, he had heard from his lordship that evening that his opinion was that the music in the parks was of an elevating character and useful to the working classes. (Hear, hear.) In conclusion, he would say that as he had been told he would continue to be the unflinching representative of the people's interests. (Loud cheers, amidst which the right honourable baronet retired.)

It was resolved to send a deputation to Lord Palmerston. Mr. Hart denounced the new Holy Alliance, headed by Baines, of Leeds, and the Archbishop of Canterbury. Mr. Sinden proposed an amendment, to the effect that an open-air meeting on the Lord's-day was objectionable. Mr. Charles Burke seconded the amendment amidst great uproar. A few hands having been held up for the amendment, the resolution was carried amidst loud applause.

THE QUESTION OF THE DAY.—The Archdeacon of Surrey has recently written a pamphlet in defence of Church-rates, designating them "The Question of the Day." A district Church clergyman in the same county, outwits the archdeacon, in defending the Church and State connexion, and has appropriated his motto. The Rev. F. M. Cameron, Incumbent of Christ Church, Brockham, has just issued a pamphlet, entitled,—"Shall there be a National Church? The Question of the Day." Truly these are additional and unmistakable "signs of the times."

CHURCH-RATES.—**HOLYWELL, FLINT.**—In this parish the Church party, having been beaten by large majorities of two-thirds in vestry, have come to the wise resolution of appealing for voluntary contributions for the repair of the parish church.

MOVEMENT IN DEFENCE OF CHURCH-RATES.—A committee, comprising some of the most bigoted opponents of religious freedom, such as Lord R. Cecil, M.P., Mr. Smith Child, M.P., Mr. Napier, M.P., and others, has been formed for the purpose not only of opposing any measure for the abolition of Church-rates, but for endeavouring to facilitate their enforcement. Having laid down the principle that the abolition of the rate (which, they say, has been the property of the Church "from time immemorial") would be an act of "apollation," they assert that such measures originated in merely political objects. They next descend upon the rights of the poor to seats in churches, and to the services of the clergy at christenings, at marriages, and at funerals. They declare that the voluntary liberality of Churchmen would, in many country places, fail to provide what is needful. Of the measure before Parliament, they say: "The Ministerial amendments are equally objectionable in theory, and still more pernicious in application, than the apollating bill of Sir William Clay." They say that only 363,000*l*. a year is now obtained from rates. And they conclude by suggesting "a compromise, through which the Church might purchase facility of enforcement by limitation in amount; such compromise should consist in 'a provision for the sustentation of churches and for the becoming performance of Divine worship, and restricting to this the levy of Church-rates.'"

ST. PAUL AND ST. BARNABAS.—The appeal in this now celebrated case commenced on Monday morning before Sir John Dodson, the Dean of the Arches Court. It is the custom in law courts for the counsel for the appeal to commence, but in this case Dr. Bayford opened on behalf of Mr. Westerton. The learned gentleman spoke all day, and added little or nothing to the arguments advanced when the matter was under the consideration of Dr. Lushington. He entered very fully into the subject of church ornaments, showing that those employed at St. Paul and St. Barnabas were not warranted by ecclesiastical usage, and had not concluded his speech when the Court rose. It is not expected that judgment will be given before November.

A HASTY BISHOP.—The Bishop of Exeter is holding a confirmation within the diocese. Last week he was "imposing his hands" at Exmouth, and before commencing the ceremony he saw a certain gentleman rise up in a pew, along with a couple of young ladies. The old gentleman roared out, "What do you do there, Sir? Go out, Sir!" The gentleman thus addressed was perfectly astounded. He had never been served such a trick before; and what was the most remarkable part of the affair was this, that he was in church in obedience to the rubric, as "a witness of the confirmation of his daughters." He proved to be, we are told, the Rev. Nicholas Walters, M.A., rural dean, and vicar of All Saints, Stanford, Lincolnshire.—*Western Times*.

THE REV. G. C. GORHAM.—The Bishop of Exeter has issued a commission under the Church Discipline Act, to investigate the charge of brawling in church, preferred against the Rev. G. C. Gorham, vicar of Hampford Speke, by one of his parishioners.

Religious Intelligence.

PRESBYTERIAN CENTENARY AT NORWICH.—On the 12th May, 1756, Dr. John Taylor preached the first sermon in the spacious and elegant chapel at Norwich, which his congregation had erected, and the centenary of that event was lately observed by the congregation still assembling therein. The sermons on the preceding day were preached by Mr. Madge, of Essex-street, London, and Mr. James Martineau, of Liverpool. On the following day, nearly 200 gentlemen and ladies dined together at the Royal Hotel; J. Taylor, Esq., F.R.S., a great grandson of his reverend namesake, in the chair. Many other of his descendants,

* Darling, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields.

anxious to evince their respect for the memory of their ancestor, and their unshaken attachment to the principles of Nonconformity, were present; among them the Chevalier Philip Taylor, of Mar-seilles; Philip Meadows Taylor, Esq., of Dublin; Professor Edward Taylor, of Gresham College; Thomas Lombe Taylor, Esq., of Starston; John Taylor, Esq., of Aberystwith; Dr. Rigby, and Mrs. Austen. There were present of Dr. Taylor's descendants, some of the fourth, fifth, and sixth generations. Of another family, long connected with the Presbyterian congregation at Norwich, many members were present, the descendants of Mr. David Martineau, who, on the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, left his country and settled at Norwich. Here, with many of his countrymen, who, like himself, were Protestant refugees, he worshipped in the church which Queen Elizabeth had given to their predecessors who had fled from the persecution of the Duke of Alva. His descendants, being born in England, joined the Presbyterian congregation at Norwich, where their medical and especially their surgical skill through several generations was as well known as their attachment to Protestant Dissent. John Taylor, Esq., in responding to the toast, "The Descendants of Dr. Taylor," said: "We are not ashamed of being Nonconformists; we are proud of the name." As the manager of the largest mines in Cardiganshire, Mr. Taylor has in his employ not less than a thousand persons, yet on a recent vacancy for the Cardiganshire boroughs, he was not even invited to represent them in Parliament; but a bigoted and violent advocate for compelling Dissenters to pay Church-rates was chosen. Verily our Welsh Nonconforming brethren, in this instance, have only themselves to blame. Among the toasts was "The Memory of the Two Thousand!" from two of whom—viz., John Meadows and Benjamin Fairfax—the families above-mentioned were, by their maternal ancestors, descended. Other toasts and sentiments, expressive of attachment to the great principles of civil and religious liberty, were given, and altogether the event which had assembled so many friends together was celebrated in a way calculated to leave the most profitable as well as pleasant recollections on the minds of all who were present.

BATHSIDE CHAPEL, HARWICH.—The Rev. C. S. Carey, late of Hackney College, and since pastor of the Congregational Church, at Basingbourne, Cambridgeshire, has accepted an invitation to the pastorate from the Independent Church, Harwich, and commenced his duties on the 4th instant, and it is hoped that the Church will now be strengthened by the pious portion of the congregation. While destitute of a pastor, the pulpit was supplied by ministers of the Essex Congregational Union, and several from London, also by students from Hackney, Chesham, and New Colleges. The late talented and pious Rev. W. Hordle—who was honoured by having under his tuition Dr. M'All, of Manchester, and the Rev. T. Spencer, of Liverpool, previous to their studies at Hoxton Academy—laboured fifty years as the pastor of this Church, during which he was highly beloved by his charge, and much respected by all classes of the inhabitants of the town.

HALSTEAD.—The venerable Rev. J. Reynolds, of this town, having found it necessary to retire from the ministry, his congregation and friends, a few days ago, met together and presented to their late pastor an affectionate address, and a chaste and beautiful copy of Bagster's miniature quarto Bible, together with a purse, containing the sum of thirty guineas. Mr. Reynolds made a touching acknowledgment of the generosity of his friends. Addresses were delivered by Mr. W. S. Wallis (deacon), the Rev. W. Clements, of Haleshead, J. H. Cadoux, of Weathersfield, J. Watkinson, of Maplestead, and the Rev. J. Walters, of Colne.

NAUNTON.—The Rev. George Cole, late of Exeter, has accepted an unanimous invitation to the Baptist Church, Naunton, Gloucestershire, and entered upon his ministerial labours on the 18th instant.

MILL-END, RICKMANSWORTH, HERTS.—On Monday, May 12, Mr. William Grevy, having accepted the Church's invite to become its pastor, was publicly ordained in the Baptist Chapel in this place. The Rev. Robert Tubbs read appropriate Scripture and offered prayer; the Rev. Edward Burley described the nature of a Christian Church; the Rev. J. George asked the usual questions; the Rev. William Upton offered the ordination prayer; the Rev. Samuel Green delivered the charge; and the Rev. T. C. Carter concluded with prayer. At the close of the afternoon service, the friends adjourned to a commodious tent kindly lent for the occasion, where tea was provided. At half-past six, the chapel was again crowded; the newly-ordained pastor commenced the service, and the Rev. F. P. Hewlett delivered a very able and impressive discourse on the duties of a people to their pastor. The services were exceedingly well attended, and interesting.

Correspondence.

THE OPIUM TRADE IN CHINA.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—At this season, when our various missionary societies are holding their great meetings, will you permit me, through the medium of your widely-circulated paper, to call the attention of Christian men to some facts which are either not generally known, or have not received the consideration their gravity, as obstacles to missionary work in the East, especially in China, demand, while they disgrace a country which boasts of being the pioneer of religion, civilisation, and freedom, throughout the world.

Opium is forced as actively as ever into China, in despite of the laws of the empire. I say forced, because the vessels engaged in the infamous business are either armed, or accompanied by an armed vessel, to resist all opposition on the part of the Chinese authorities. If

the East India Company be not, now, directly the smugglers, they connive at the illicit trade, prepare the drug in the most convenient form for its introduction, support the violator of the righteous law of a country too weak to resist or avenge itself, and derive a large revenue from the trade.

What would Englishmen say, especially English Christians, were America or France to attempt like conduct on our own shores; and would the British Government dare to protect any of our mercantile houses at home in a similar enterprise on their coasts, and pay the national creditor out of funds so obtained? But America and France are too powerful to have their laws thus outraged with impunity, and China is powerless.

Every inducement has been held out to the Emperor of China to move him to admit opium into his dominions, which would at once relieve him from the financial difficulties which overburden him; hitherto he has nobly resisted bringing, as he says, so much misery on his people. So much for the heathen despot. This financial embarrassment, be it remembered, has been chiefly produced by the drain made on the Chinese treasury for the war, aggressive on the part of Great Britain and the East India Company, for the sole purpose of forcing the noxious drug on the country. All these expenses were rigorously exacted from the feeble Eastern, though we let off European Governments with a very small instalment of similar engagements.

Another fact directly connected with missionary work in China is, that our consul at Shanghai has lately forbidden a medical missionary (Mr. J. Taylor, of the Chinese Evangelisation Society,) taking a house at that place, on the pretext that it might create disturbance, in the present state of the country, while two French propagandists are quietly living in the interior, with the French flag waving over their houses, and French war-ships in the Chinese seas ready to protect them. The fact is, that no prohibition whatever exists in China to preach the Gospel throughout the land. I heard a few evenings ago, part of a letter from Dr. Medhurst, in which he speaks of the numbers of the natives who crowd to hear and receive the Scriptures, as quite overwhelming.

I leave the above facts to the serious consideration of Christian men in this country. Such men have weight and influence enough, if they arouse themselves to put them forth, to bring to an end such an iniquity as forcing opium into China, as now done, and to demand fair play, and a clear stage for the Protestant missionary—he wants no favour.

Our Under-Secretary for the Colonies is a Roman Catholic, and the Solicitor-General, who is gone, or about to go to Hong-Kong, is also a Romanist. Whether any connexions exist, between these influences and the obstacles put in the way of missionary effort in certain parts of China, time will show.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

May 3.

H. G.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

The second session of the Congregational Union was held at the Poultry Chapel, on Friday, the Rev. JOHN STROUGHTON in the chair, who began the proceedings by reading a portion of Scripture and offering prayer.

The Rev. G. SMITH read a paper on the Constitution, Working, and Claims of the Union. The organisation was, he said, twenty-five years old this year. It was not intended to be a legislative body, nor a court of appeal, and it had never become such. It was designed simply to promote fraternal sentiments and unity of action, as far as might be, between the various Churches of the denomination and between themselves and other bodies, both at home and abroad. In the working of the Union there had always been an eye to the sacred rights of individuals, and the perfect independence of the Churches. Other and larger powers than those now possessed were neither needed nor desired.

The Rev. JOHN CORBIN moved a resolution approving of the paper, and recommending its publication, which was seconded by Mr. CHARLES REED, and unanimously adopted.

The Rev. DAVID RUSSELL, of Glasgow, one of the deputation from the Congregational Union of Scotland, was introduced to the assembly, and cordially received. He described at some length the condition and modes of operation of the various bodies of Christians in Scotland, and pointed out the necessity which he believed still to exist for the maintenance of Congregational Churches in that land.

The Rev. S. M'ALL, the recent deputation to Scotland, gave a cheering account of his visit; after which the Rev. T. ADKINS moved a resolution of fraternal sympathy with the Congregational Churches in Scotland, of welcome to the present deputation, and of thanks to the Rev. S. M'All for the service he had performed as the representative of the Union at the late meetings of the Scottish Union. The Rev. Mr. RICHARDS cordially seconded the resolution, and it was passed by acclamation.

The Rev. G. SMITH moved the next resolution:—

That this assembly of the Congregational Union is rejoiced to learn that the Rev. John de Liefde, of Amsterdam, is engaged in extensive evangelising efforts in Holland, on which the abundant blessing of God has manifestly rested, and indulges the hope that his appeal for pecuniary assistance to Christians in this country, in aid of his important work, will be kindly and liberally responded to.

In moving the resolution, Mr. Smith took occasion to observe that some brother had thought it right freely to comment on the proceedings of the Union on Tuesday. Of course they were perfectly open to remarks from any brother; but when names were mentioned, would it not be more candid of such brother to put his name to the document? ("Hear," and cheers.) He did not personally feel the comments to which he alluded, but thought there was a principle involved in the matter. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. Dr. CAMPBELL seconded the resolution in an energetic speech. In Holland there were 1,500 ministers connected with the State, of whom not more than 100 preach the Gospel of the grace of God. (Hear.)

Once it was otherwise, but a sad change had been brought about by a process of evangelical homeopathy. This was the process; the transition was easy from quiet negation to resolute opposition. (Hear, hear.) Holland presented a warning to England, to Scotland, and the world. ("Hear," and cheers.) A new current had set in. (Hear, hear.) They talked and complained of Puseyism. There was something worse than Puseyism rising up amongst the Churches. (Hear, hear.) Books were appearing from time to time of a far more dangerous description than those which teach Puseyism. The doctee proceeded to read extracts from various English and American books, to show that heterodox views are increasing, and continued:—

In God's name let us beware how we blunt the five points of Calvinism. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) This is the voice of triumph. In God's name let us beware of evangelical homeopathy, else we are undone. (Cheers.) Away with the philosophy of Germany, falsely so called! be it ours to cleave to the Sacred Scriptures. (Cheers.) That is my general testimony in regard to this subject. The Westminster Confession of Faith I hold by as an outline never surpassed; that is the book for me. (Cheers.) I hope my brethren will say so generally. (Hear, hear.) We cannot afford in these times to trifle with the Word of God. (Ories of "Hear.") Would that the Shorter Catechism might once more find its way into all our families and all our schools, and that the great general outline of the Westminster Standards might regulate the ministrations of every pulpit in the land. (Hear, hear.) Otherwise, that which has befallen Holland may befall us. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. ANDREW REED said:—

There is ground, I admit, for jealousy and watchfulness; but, still, there is scarcely to be found, I do hope, a body of ministers, who would more thoroughly, with one heart and one mind, assent to all the cardinal doctrines of the Gospel, although we sometimes may differ in our modes of expression, and some of our forms of action. I think that, to deal with this question as though there were persons among us who had entered into a plot or conspiracy to set up Unitarian views, and bring in all the loose errors of the day, and thus, in some measure to bring upon our heads responsibility for that which our hearts would repudiate, would be a proceeding of a most dangerous character to our position as a Union, and our influence as a denomination. (Hear, hear.) Do not let us get into an unkind or unchristian spirit with those who warn us of danger. (Hear, hear.) Let the warning be with kindness and love, and let us bear it in the same spirit. (Cheers.)

The Rev. NEWMAN HALL rose in the body of the edifice. The CHAIRMAN, however, intimated that it would be undesirable to allude to certain recent theological differences.

Mr. HALL: I was simply wishing to state my sympathy with Mr. Liefde, who has honoured me by translating my little tract, "Come to Jesus," into the Dutch language. If I am allowed perfect freedom of speech for five minutes, I shall go on—(hear, hear)—if not, I shall sit down. [The CHAIRMAN having assented.] Mr. Hall continued: Thousands of my little tract have been there circulated, in order to counteract those dangerous errors to which reference has been made—errors of which I yield to no man in my detestation, and which it is the joy of my life to labour to counteract. I am thankful to Mr. Reed for his appropriate remarks. I agree with him in his regret at the fact that insinuations have been thrown out in regard to the unsoundness of Nonconformists with reference to the great principles of the Gospel. I am told that a certain pamphlet does contain insinuations and suggestions—a pamphlet which I have not read.

The CHAIRMAN: I don't know to what pamphlet you are referring; but I do think it would be better not to interfere with the matter.

Mr. HALL: I mention no names. I have not read the pamphlet; but I am told that it states that the Nonconformists have become unfaithful; and I believe it is that which influenced Lord Shaftesbury. It (the observations of the pamphlet) has been reprinted in the *Record*, to the detriment of Congregationalists; and it has been advocated and recommended by one of our own body. ("Hear," and "No, no.")

The CHAIRMAN: Pray don't press it. (Hear, hear.) If fresh statements are made, there will, of course, be a rejoinder.

Mr. HALL: I drop the subject.

The CHAIRMAN: I am an advocate for free discussion; but there is not time to enter into the question. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. HALL: I cordially concur with Dr. Campbell, that the great truths of the Gospel are in danger from some quarters. (Hear, hear.) I believe they are, and it becomes us to uphold them; but they are also in danger when they are sought to be propped up and upheld on the ruins of morality. (Cheers and disapprobation.)

The resolution having been carried unanimously, the Rev. Mr. HENDERSON made a brief statement with respect to Ireland, and a resolution on the subject was adopted, on the motion of the Rev. R. ASHTON seconded by the Rev. JOHN AIDY.

The Rev. Dr. BROWN brought up the report of the sub-committee appointed to confer with the committee and officers of the British missions societies, which recommended that, with a view to revive the strength and increase the efficiency of the Home Missionary Society, the provision supplied in the constitution of appointing forty country directors be taken advantage of; and that the country associations be requested to appoint such directors. After some discussion on the recommendations of the report, especially with reference to the secretariat, the resolution that it be adopted was put from the chair, and carried.

Mr. SAMUEL MORLEY read a brief paper on the subject of Education, which stated that the schools in connexion with the Congregational Board continued to increase and to be satisfactorily conducted. During the year thirty students had been appointed to schools, and forty-one are now in the Institution at Homerton. In the Model Schools there are 800 children under instruction. The committee had no reason to speak of

the funds with despondency, notwithstanding the pressure of the war. The receipts were 1,780l. 0s. 8d., including a balance from the Model School of 13l. 2s. 7d., over the entire expenses of these large schools of 800 children. (Cheers.) The present balance in favour of the board was 18l. 14s. The committee reminded their friends throughout the country, that large and extended success must depend upon them, who could look out young people suitable for teachers, and send them to the Institution, as well as contribute to its funds. The Rev. JOSEPH VINNY moved a resolution expressive of satisfaction at the position of the Homerton Institution, and commending it to the zealous support of the denomination, which was seconded by the Rev. A. BARNES, and carried.

Mr. JAMES SPICER moved, and Mr. BENJAMIN HANBURY seconded, the following resolution on Sabbath observance, which was unanimously agreed to:—

That this assembly has learned with profound satisfaction that Lord Palmerston has interposed his authority for preventing the further decoration of the Sabbath by the playing of military bands in the parks on the Lord's-day; and would respectfully present to his lordship, as the representative of Her Majesty's Government, the expression of its gratitude and confidence for this act; believing, as it does, that any national infraction of the Divine institution of a day of weekly rest would be injurious alike to the liberties and religion of the country, dishonouring to the laws of the Sabbath, and unfavourable to the real interests of the working classes.

On the motion of the Rev. GEORGE WILKINS, the thanks of the pastors and delegates were unanimously accorded to the Rev. J. Spence, the pastor, and the deacons of the Poultry Chapel, for the use of their commodious place of worship.

The Rev. J. ASHBY read a paper on the "Sustentation Fund" previously brought before the north Buckinghamshire Congregational Union; the consideration of which was adjourned till the next autumnal meeting.

The Rev. E. R. CONDER brought up the "Declaration of Principles." It contained a distinct enunciation of the leading truths of the Gospel, conveyed in simple language adapted to all classes. It was referred to the committee to consider the best form of their presentation to the public.

The benediction having been pronounced, the Union adjourned.

At the subsequent dinner, a resolution on the subject of Dissenters' Marriages was agreed to. It requested the committee to put themselves in communication with the Dissenting deputies, in order to the introduction of a measure into Parliament with a view to the stoppage of the injurious practice of re-marriage. The Rev. T. BARNES responded to "The Congregational Churches of Wales." The Rev. Dr. M'CLURE acknowledged "America; may the good understanding between her and the Mother Country be perpetuated." Mr. LLOYD replied to "The Colonies; may they continue truly British and be evangelised." Mr. MORLEY proposed a resolution in favour of Mr. Miall's motion for the disendowment of all religious sects in Ireland. It was opposed by the Rev. Dr. CAMPBELL and the Rev. J. A. JAMES, who both considered that it was unwise to divide attention while concentrated, as at present, on the disendowment of Maynooth. An amendment was not moved, however, and the resolution was carried. Another resolution was carried, although not without dissension, in favour of the acceptance of the Government amendments to Sir William Clay's Bill, and the proceedings terminated.

VOLUNTARY EDUCATION.

On Tuesday evening, May 9, a meeting convened by special invitation, and comprising members of the Voluntary School Association, and the Congregational Board of Education, was held at the Milton Club, to confer on the best means of securing practical co-operation between the friends of these two Institutions.

The chair was taken by G. W. ALEXANDER, Esq., who explained the object of the meeting, and strongly urged the importance of carefully examining into the condition of voluntary schools throughout the country, with a view to administer such counsel or encouragement, and pecuniary aid as might be necessary to enable them to preserve their existence and integrity in face of the great temptations and difficulties they have now to encounter. He further referred to the decision of the Voluntary School Association to close their Normal Institutions, in order to devote all the energy and resources of the society to the assistance of schools in destitute localities, and he expressed his hope, that the result of the meeting would be such as to enable the committee to prosecute successfully the important work they had undertaken. The Rev. H. Richard brought up and moved the adoption of the report of a committee appointed at a previous meeting to arrange a plan for the co-operation of the two societies, and referred to the recent debate and victory in the House of Commons, as giving the friends of Voluntary education an advantage which they ought carefully to improve. The adoption of the report was seconded by Samuel Morley, Esq., the treasurer of the Congregational Board of Education, who had no doubt that, if the committee of the Voluntary School Association carried out their proposed scheme of operations with vigour, the Congregational friends would be quite willing cordially to co-operate with them in the work. He could speak very confidently on the point for himself, and he had little doubt that the Congregational body generally would give their support. The Revs. T. James, J. Kennedy, J. H. Hinton, W. Bean, and W. J. Unwin, with Messrs. H. R. Ellington, S. J. Nash, C. Reed, W. Edwards, G. R.

the occasion, and support Mr. Miall with their votes as well as with speech.

Up to the 8th inst., the petitions presented in favour of the removal of all endowments and grants in Ireland amounted to 123, with 9,215 signatures. It will be seen, also, from our other columns that, in addition to the other bodies who have taken up the subject, the Congregational Union adopted a resolution in favour of the motion at their meeting last Friday. We need scarcely again urge that all petitions not yet forwarded should be sent up this week, and that much good may still be done, by personal communication from constituents to their members.

ECCLESIASTICAL PETITIONS TO PARLIAMENT.

From the thirty-third report of the Public Petitions Committee we learn, that up to May 8th, seven petitions, with 264 signatures, had been presented in favour of a new version of the Bible; 7 petitions, with 312 signatures, against the Abolition of Church-rates; 595, with 23,397 signatures, against abolition without an equivalent; 39, with 1,071 signatures, against the Church-rate Abolition Bill; and 95, with 7,780 signatures, in its favour. It will thus be seen that while the opponents of Church-rates have mainly refrained from petitioning, the supporters of the impost have been industriously at work. These petitions came almost exclusively from rural districts, where the clergy are omnipotent. There have been two petitions, with 151 signatures, for preventing desecration of the Lord's-day. The zeal against Maynooth continues very strong, and is evidenced by 484 petitions, with 99,217 signatures. Ninety petitions, with 7,428 signatures, have been presented against Mr. Gibson's Oath of Abjuration Bill; 123, with 9,215 signatures, for Disendowment in Ireland; 177 with 2,379 signatures, for alteration of the Law of Assessment of the Tithe-Rent Charge; 4,989, with 627,824 signatures, against Opening British Museum on Sunday; and 115, with 22,161 signatures, in its favour. Six thousand two hundred and forty persons have petitioned in favour of Opening the Crystal Palace on Sunday.

LAST SUNDAY IN THE PARKS.

The rain which fell during the morning and the early part of the afternoon of Sunday put a stop to much of the proposed demonstrations against the withdrawal of the military bands from the parks and Kensington-gardens. Nevertheless, in consequence of the strong and excited feeling existing among the working classes, the Commissioners of Police caused a considerable force of constables to be in readiness to suppress any tumultuous assemblage, with instructions, however, not to exercise interference unless it became absolutely necessary. The largest number of persons present in Kensington-gardens during the intervals of the heavy showers of hail, rain, and sleet, did not amount to 1,000, and no assemblages took place in the Regent's-park or in Victoria-park worth notice. In Kensington-gardens a concourse of "roughs" banded themselves together, rushing against every respectably dressed person they met, at the same time whistling, hooting, and shrieking, for the purpose of creating confusion and committing robberies. Placards of the National Sunday League were diligently circulated at the entrances to the parks, and handbills announcing public meetings were freely distributed.

The Saturday Half-holiday Committee are taking steps to obtain the services of the bands in the parks on Saturday afternoons.

On Monday evening, a public meeting of the inhabitants of St. Pancras was held in the Vestry Hall, King's-road, Camden-town, for the purpose of eliciting the opinion of the public upon the recent stoppage of the bands in Kensington-gardens and the parks, by order of Government. A letter was read from Mr. Charles Dickens, stating that if it were proposed to organize a movement on the subject he would subscribe 10l.

That the performance of music in the public parks on the Sunday afternoon is eminently calculated to promote the health, happiness, and morality of the people; and this meeting hereby expresses its regret and indignation at the sudden withdrawal of so useful and innocent a means of popular enjoyment. (Loud applause.)

Amongst the speakers was Sir B. Hall, who made a very strong speech in favour of the Sunday bands, attacking Mr. Baines and the whole Sabbatarian party.

But what would the people say when he (Sir B. Hall) told them that a compromise was proposed—(shame)—that he had been actually told that had he been contented with Kensington-gardens, he would not have been interfered with. But what would his constituents have said had he been so hypocritical as to say that that was right in Kensington-gardens which was wrong in Victoria and Regent's-parks? (Hear, hear.) It was his duty as a representative of the people and as a Minister of the Crown, to see that all classes were equally dealt with. He had personally visited the various parks, and could bear testimony to the excellent conduct of those who were essentially the people—so careful were the people of the parks, that it required nothing more than their own good sense to protect them. In giving a band to the people on Sunday, he was under the conviction that he was doing no wrong to God or man. He would ask those who were opposed to him not to condemn because they did not agree on all points. It was with deep regret that he had been compelled to discontinue the recreation he had

provided. One thing in conclusion. He would urge upon the people to continue that conduct which up to this time was so admirable—a continuance of such conduct would at least convince the opponents to the bands that they have been wrong. (Hear, hear.) As to Lord Palmerston, he had heard from his lordship that evening that his opinion was that the music in the parks was of an elevating character and useful to the working classes. (Hear, hear.) In conclusion, he would say that as he had been so he would continue to be—the unflinching representative of the people's interests. (Loud cheers, amidst which the right honourable baronet retired.)

It was resolved to send a deputation to Lord Palmerston. Mr. Hart denounced the new Holy Alliance, headed by Baines, of Leeds, and the Archbishop of Canterbury. Mr. Sinden proposed an amendment, to the effect that an open-air meeting on the Lord's-day was objectionable. Mr. Charles Burke seconded the amendment amidst great uproar. A few hands having been held up for the amendment, the resolution was carried amidst loud applause.

THE QUESTION OF THE DAY.—The Archdeacon of Surrey has recently written a pamphlet in defence of Church-rates, designating them "The Question of the Day." A district Church clergyman in the same county, outvies the archdeacon, in defending the Church and State connexion, and has appropriated his motto. The Rev. F. M. Cameron, Incumbent of Christ Church, Brockham, has just issued a pamphlet, entitled,—"Shall there be a National Church? The Question of the Day." Truly these are additional and unmistakable "signs of the times."

CHURCH-RATES.—**HOLYWELL, FLINT.**—In this parish the Church party, having been beaten by large majorities of two-thirds in vestry, have come to the wise resolution of appealing for voluntary contributions for the repair of the parish church.

MOVEMENT IN DEFENCE OF CHURCH-RATES.—A committee, comprising some of the most bigoted opponents of religious freedom, such as Lord R. Cecil, M.P., Mr. Smith Child, M.P., Mr. Napier, M.P., and others, has been formed for the purpose not only of opposing any measure for the abolition of Church-rates, but for endeavouring to facilitate their enforcement. Having laid down the principle that the abolition of the rate (which, they say, has been the property of the Church "from time immemorial") would be an act of "spoliation," they assert that such measures originated in merely political objects. They next descend upon the rights of the poor to seats in churches, and to the services of the clergy at christenings, at marriages, and at funerals. They declare that the voluntary liberality of Churchmen would, in many country places, fail to provide what is needful. Of the measure before Parliament, they say: "The Ministerial amendments are equally objectionable in theory, and still more pernicious in application, than the spoliating bill of Sir William Clay." They say that only 363,000l. a year is now obtained from rates. And they conclude by suggesting "a compromise, through which the Church might purchase facility of enforcement by limitation in amount; such compromise should consist in 'a provision for the sustentation of churches and for the becoming performance of Divine worship, and restricting to this the levy of Church-rates.'"

ST. PAUL AND ST. BARNABAS.—The appeal in this now celebrated case commenced on Monday morning before Sir John Dodson, the Dean of the Arches Court. It is the custom in law courts for the counsel for the appeal to commence, but in this case Dr. Bayford opened on behalf of Mr. Westerton. The learned gentleman spoke all day, and added little or nothing to the arguments advanced when the matter was under the consideration of Dr. Lushington. He entered very fully into the subject of church ornaments, showing that those employed at St. Paul and St. Barnabas were not warranted by ecclesiastical usage, and had not concluded his speech when the Court rose. It is not expected that judgment will be given before November.

A HASTY BISHOP.—The Bishop of Exeter is holding a confirmation within the diocese. Last week he was "imposing his hands" at Exmouth, and before commencing the ceremony he saw a certain gentleman rise up in a pew, along with a couple of young ladies. The old gentleman roared out, "What do you do there, Sir? Go out, Sir!" The gentleman thus addressed was perfectly astounded. He had never been served such a trick before; and what was the most remarkable part of the affair was this, that he was in church in obedience to the rubric, as "a witness of the confirmation of his daughters." He proved to be, we are told, the Rev. Nicholas Walters, M.A., rural dean, and vicar of All Saints, Stanford, Lincolnshire.—*Western Times.*

THE REV. G. C. GORHAM.—The Bishop of Exeter has issued a commission under the Church Discipline Act, to investigate the charge of brawling in church, preferred against the Rev. G. C. Gorham, vicar of Bampford Speke, by one of his parishioners.

Religious Intelligence.

PRESBYTERIAN CENTENARY AT NORWICH.—On the 12th May, 1756, Dr. John Taylor preached the first sermon in the spacious and elegant chapel at Norwich, which his congregation had erected, and the centenary of that event was lately observed by the congregation still assembling therein. The sermons on the preceding day were preached by Mr. Madge, of Essex-street, London, and Mr. James Martineau, of Liverpool. On the following day, nearly 200 gentlemen and ladies dined together at the Royal Hotel; J. Taylor, Esq., F.R.S., a great grandson of his reverend namesake, in the chair. Many other of his descendants,

* Darling, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields.

anxious to evince their respect for the memory of their ancestor, and their unshaken attachment to the principles of Nonconformity, were present; among them the Chevalier Philip Taylor, of Marseilles; Philip Meadows Taylor, Esq., of Dublin; Professor Edward Taylor, of Gresham College; Thomas Lombe Taylor, Esq., of Starston; John Taylor, Esq., of Aberystwith; Dr. Rigby, and Mrs. Austen. There were present of Dr. Taylor's descendants, some of the fourth, fifth, and sixth generations. Of another family, long connected with the Presbyterian congregation at Norwich, many members were present, the descendants of Mr. David Martineau, who, on the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, left his country and settled at Norwich. Here, with many of his countrymen, who, like himself, were Protestant refugees, he worshipped in the church which Queen Elizabeth had given to their predecessors who had fled from the persecution of the Duke of Alva. His descendants, being born in England, joined the Presbyterian congregation at Norwich, where their medical and especially their surgical skill through several generations was as well known as their attachment to Protestant Dissent. John Taylor, Esq., in responding to the toast, "The Descendants of Dr. Taylor," said: "We are not ashamed of being Nonconformists; we are proud of the name." As the manager of the largest mines in Cardiganshire, Mr. Taylor has in his employ not less than a thousand persons, yet on a recent vacancy for the Cardiganshire boroughs, he was not even invited to represent them in Parliament; but a bigoted and violent advocate for compelling Dissenters to pay Church-rates was chosen. Verily our Welsh Nonconforming brethren, in this instance, have only themselves to blame. Among the toasts was "The Memory of the Two Thousand!" from two of whom—viz., John Meadows and Benjamin Fairfax—the families above-mentioned were, by their maternal ancestors, descended. Other toasts and sentiments, expressive of attachment to the great principles of civil and religious liberty, were given, and altogether the event which had assembled so many friends together was celebrated in a way calculated to leave the most profitable as well as pleasant recollections on the minds of all who were present.

BATHSIDE CHAPEL, HARWICH.—The Rev. C. S. Carey, late of Hackney College, and since pastor of the Congregational Church, at Bassingbourne, Cambridgeshire, has accepted an invitation to the pastorate from the Independent Church, Harwich, and commenced his duties on the 4th instant, and it is hoped that the Church will now be strengthened by the pious portion of the congregation. While destitute of a pastor, the pulpit was supplied by ministers of the Essex Congregational Union, and several from London, also by students from Hackney, Cheshunt, and New Colleges. The late talented and pious Rev. W. Hordle—who was honoured by having under his tuition Dr. M'All, of Manchester, and the Rev. T. Spencer, of Liverpool, previous to their studies at Hoxton Academy—laboured fifty years as the pastor of this Church, during which he was highly beloved by his charge, and much respected by all classes of the inhabitants of the town.

HALSTEAD.—The venerable Rev. J. Reynolds, of this town, having found it necessary to retire from the ministry, his congregation and friends, a few days ago, met together and presented to their late pastor an affectionate address, and a chaste and beautiful copy of Bagster's miniature quarto Bible, together with a purse, containing the sum of thirty guineas. Mr. Reynolds made a touching acknowledgment of the generosity of his friends. Addresses were delivered by Mr. W. S. Wallis (deacon), the Rev. W. Clements, of Halshead, J. H. Cadoux, of Weathersfield, J. Watkinson, of Maplestead, and the Rev. J. Walters, of Colne.

MAUNTON.—The Rev. George Cole, late of Exeter, has accepted an unanimous invitation to the Baptist Church, Naunton, Gloucestershire, and entered upon his ministerial labours on the 18th instant.

MILL-END, RICKMANSWORTH, HERTS.—On Monday, May 12, Mr. William Grevy, having accepted the Church's invite to become its pastor, was publicly ordained in the Baptist Chapel in this place. The Rev. Robert Tubbs read appropriate Scripture and offered prayer; the Rev. Edward Burley described the nature of a Christian Church; the Rev. J. George asked the usual questions; the Rev. William Upton offered the ordination prayer; the Rev. Samuel Green delivered the charge; and the Rev. T. C. Carter concluded with prayer. At the close of the afternoon service, the friends adjourned to a commodious tent kindly lent for the occasion, where tea was provided. At half-past six, the chapel was again crowded; the newly-ordained pastor commenced the service, and the Rev. F. P. Hewlett delivered a very able and impressive discourse on the duties of a people to their pastor. The services were exceedingly well attended, and interesting.

Correspondence.

THE OPIUM TRADE IN CHINA.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—At this season, when our various missionary societies are holding their great meetings, will you permit me, through the medium of your widely-circulated paper, to call the attention of Christian men to some facts which are either not generally known, or have not received the consideration their gravity, as obstacles to missionary work in the East, especially in China, demand, while they disgrace a country which boasts of being the pioneer of religion, civilisation, and freedom, throughout the world.

Opium is forced as actively as ever into China, in despite of the laws of the empire. I say forced, because the vessels engaged in the infamous business are either armed, or accompanied by an armed vessel, to resist all opposition on the part of the Chinese authorities. If

the East India Company be not, now, directly the smugglers, they connive at the illicit trade, prepare the drug in the most convenient form for its introduction, support the violator of the righteous law of a country too weak to resist or avenge itself, and derive a large revenue from the trade.

What would Englishmen say, especially English Christians, were America or France to attempt like conduct on our own shores; and would the British Government dare to protect any of our mercantile houses at home in a similar enterprise on their coasts, and pay the national creditor out of funds so obtained? But America and France are too powerful to have their laws thus outraged with impunity, and China is powerless.

Every inducement has been held out to the Emperor of China to move him to admit opium into his dominions, which would at once relieve him from the financial difficulties which overwhelm him; hitherto he has nobly resisted bringing, as he says, so much misery on his people. So much of our mercantile houses at home in a similar enterprise on their coasts, and pay the national creditor out of funds so obtained? But America and France are too powerful to have their laws thus outraged with impunity, and China is powerless.

Another fact directly connected with missionary work in China is, that our consul at Shanghai has lately forbidden a medical missionary (Mr. J. Taylor, of the Chinese Evangelisation Society,) taking a house at that place, on the pretext that it might create disturbance, in the present state of the country, while two French propagandists are quietly living in the interior, with the French flag waving over their houses, and French war-ships in the Chinese seas ready to protect them. The fact is, that no prohibition whatever exists in China to preach the Gospel throughout the land. I heard a few evenings ago, part of a letter from Dr. Medhurst, in which he speaks of the numbers of the natives who crowd to hear and receive the Scriptures, as quite overwhelming.

I leave the above facts to the serious consideration of Christian men in this country. Such men have weight and influence enough, if they arouse themselves to put them forth, to bring to an end such an iniquity as forcing opium into China, as now done, and to demand fair play, and a clear stage for the Protestant missionary—he wants no favour.

Our Under-Secretary for the Colonies is a Roman Catholic, and the Solicitor-General, who is gone, or about to go to Hong-Kong, is also a Romanist. Whether any connexions exist, between these influences and the obstacles put in the way of missionary effort in certain parts of China, time will show.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

May 3.

H. G.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

The second session of the Congregational Union was held at the Poultry Chapel, on Friday, the Rev. JOHN STOURTON in the chair, who began the proceedings by reading a portion of Scripture and offering prayer.

The Rev. G. SMITH read a paper on the Constitution, Working, and Claims of the Union. The organisation was, he said, twenty-five years old this year. It was not intended to be a legislative body, nor a court of appeal, and it had never become such. It was designed simply to promote fraternal sentiments and unity of action, as far as might be, between the various Churches of the denomination and between themselves and other bodies, both at home and abroad. In the working of the Union there had always been an eye to the sacred rights of individuals, and the perfect independence of the Churches. Other and larger powers than those now possessed were neither needed nor desired.

The Rev. JOHN CORBIN moved a resolution approving of the paper, and recommending its publication, which was seconded by Mr. CHARLES REED, and unanimously adopted.

The Rev. DAVID RUSSELL, of Glasgow, one of the deputation from the Congregational Union of Scotland, was introduced to the assembly, and cordially received. He described at some length the condition and modes of operation of the various bodies of Christians in Scotland, and pointed out the necessity which he believed still to exist for the maintenance of Congregational Churches in that land.

The Rev. S. M'ALL, the recent deputation to Scotland, gave a cheering account of his visit; after which the Rev. T. ADKINS moved a resolution of fraternal sympathy with the Congregational Churches in Scotland, of welcome to the present deputation, and of thanks to the Rev. S. M'All for the service he had performed as the representative of the Union at the late meetings of the Scottish Union. The Rev. Mr. RICHARDS cordially seconded the resolution, and it was passed by acclamation.

The Rev. G. SMITH moved the next resolution:—

That this assembly of the Congregational Union is rejoiced to learn that the Rev. John de Liefde, of Amsterdam, is engaged in extensive evangelising efforts in Holland, on which the abundant blessing of God has manifestly rested, and indulges the hope that his appeal for pecuniary assistance to Christians in this country, in aid of his important work, will be kindly and liberally responded to.

In moving the resolution, Mr. Smith took occasion to observe that some brother had thought it right freely to comment on the proceedings of the Union on Tuesday. Of course they were perfectly open to remarks from any brother; but when names were mentioned, would it not be more candid of such brother to put his name to the document? ("Hear," and cheers.) He did not personally feel the comments to which he alluded, but thought there was a principle involved in the matter. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. Dr. CAMPBELL seconded the resolution in an energetic speech. In Holland there were 1,500 ministers connected with the State, of whom not more than 100 preach the Gospel of the grace of God. (Hear.)

Once it was otherwise, but a sad change had been brought about by a process of evangelical homoeopathy. This was the process; the transition was easy from quiet negation to resolute opposition. (Hear, hear.) Holland presented a warning to England, to Scotland, and the world. ("Hear," and cheers.) A new current had set in. (Hear, hear.) They talked and complained of Puseyism. There was something worse than Puseyism rising up amongst the Churches. (Hear, hear.) Books were appearing from time to time of a far more dangerous description than those which teach Puseyism. The doctor proceeded to read extracts from various English and American books, to show that heterodox views are increasing, and continued:—

In God's name let us beware how we blunt the five points of Calvinism. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) This is the voice of triumph. In God's name let us beware of evangelical homoeopathy, else we are undone. (Cheers.) Away with the philosophy of Germany, falsely so called! be it ours to cleave to the Sacred Scriptures. (Cheers.) That is my general testimony in regard to this subject. The Westminster Confession of Faith I hold by as an outline never surpassed; that is the book for me. (Cheers.) I hope my brethren will say so generally. (Hear, hear.) We cannot afford in these times to trifle with the Word of God. (Cries of "Hear.") Would that the Shorter Catechism might once more find its way into all our families and all our schools, and that the great general outline of the Westminster Standards might regulate the ministrations of every pulpit in the land. (Hear, hear.) Otherwise, that which has befallen Holland may befall us. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. ANDREW REED said:—

There is ground, I admit, for jealousy and watchfulness; but, still, there is scarcely to be found, I do hope, a body of ministers, who would more thoroughly, with one heart and one mind, assent to all the cardinal doctrines of the Gospel, although we sometimes may differ in our modes of expression, and some of our forms of action. I think that, to deal with this question as though there were persons among us who had entered into a plot or conspiracy to set up Unitarian views, and bring in all the loose errors of the day, and thus, in some measure to bring upon our heads responsibility for that which our hearts would repudiate, would be a proceeding of a most dangerous character to our position as a Union, and our influence as a denomination. (Hear, hear.) Do not let us get into an unkind or unchristian spirit with those who warn us of danger. (Hear, hear.) Let the warning be with kindness and love, and let us bear it in the same spirit. (Cheers.)

The Rev. NEWMAN HALL rose in the body of the edifice. The CHAIRMAN, however, intimated that it would be undesirable to allude to certain recent theological differences.

Mr. HALL: I was simply wishing to state my sympathy with Mr. Liefde, who has honoured me by translating my little tract, "Come to Jesus," into the Dutch language. If I am allowed perfect freedom of speech for five minutes, I shall go on—(hear, hear)—if not, I shall sit down. [The CHAIRMAN having assented.] Mr. HALL continued: Thousands of my little tract have been there circulated, in order to counteract those dangerous errors to which reference has been made—errors of which I yield to no man in my detestation, and which it is the joy of my life to labour to counteract. I am thankful to Mr. Reed for his appropriate remarks. I agree with him in his regret at the fact that insinuations have been thrown out in regard to the unsoundness of Nonconformists with reference to the great principles of the Gospel. I am told that a certain pamphlet does contain insinuations and suggestions—a pamphlet which I have not read.

The CHAIRMAN: I don't know to what pamphlet you are referring; but I do think it would be better not to interfere with the matter.

Mr. HALL: I mention no names. I have not read the pamphlet; but I am told that it states that the Nonconformists have become unfaithful; and I believe it is that which influenced Lord Shaftesbury. It (the observations of the pamphlet) has been reprinted in the *Record*, to the detriment of Congregationalists; and it has been advocated and recommended by one of our own body. ("Hear," and "No, no.")

The CHAIRMAN: Pray don't press it. (Hear, hear.) If fresh statements are made, there will, of course, be a rejoinder.

Mr. HALL: I drop the subject.

The CHAIRMAN: I am an advocate for free discussion; but there is not time to enter into the question. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. HALL: I cordially concur with Dr. Campbell, that the great truths of the Gospel are in danger from some quarters. (Hear, hear.) I believe they are, and it becomes us to uphold them; but they are also in danger when they are sought to be propped up and upheld on the ruins of morality. (Cheers and disapprobation.)

The resolution having been carried unanimously, the Rev. Mr. HENDERSON made a brief statement with respect to Ireland, and a resolution on the subject was adopted, on the motion of the Rev. R. ASHTON seconded by the Rev. JOHN AIDET.

The Rev. Dr. BROWN brought up the report of the sub-committee appointed to confer with the committee and officers of the British missions societies, which recommended that, with a view to revive the strength and increase the efficiency of the Home Missionary Society, the provision supplied in the constitution of appointing forty country directors be taken advantage of; and that the country associations be requested to appoint such directors. After some discussion on the recommendations of the report, especially with reference to the secretariat, the resolution that it be adopted was put from the chair, and carried.

Mr. SAMUEL MORLEY read a brief paper on the subject of Education, which stated that the schools in connexion with the Congregational Board continued to increase and to be satisfactorily conducted. During the year thirty students had been appointed to schools, and forty-one are now in the Institution at Homerton. In the Model Schools there are 800 children under instruction. The committee had no reason to speak of

the funds with despondency, notwithstanding the pressure of the war. The receipts were 1,780l. 0s. 8d., including a balance from the Model School of 13l. 2s. 7d., over the entire expenses of these large schools of 800 children. (Cheers.) The present balance in favour of the board was 18l. 14s. The committee reminded their friends throughout the country, that large and extended success must depend upon them, who could look out young people suitable for teachers, and send them to the institution, as well as contribute to its funds. The Rev. JOSIAH VINEX moved a resolution expressive of satisfaction at the position of the Homerton Institution, and commending it to the zealous support of the denomination, which was seconded by the Rev. A. RAAB, and carried.

Mr. JAMES SPICER moved, and Mr. BENJAMIN HANBURY seconded, the following resolution on Sabbath observance, which was unanimously agreed to:—

That this assembly has learned with profound satisfaction that Lord Palmerston has interposed his authority for preventing the further desecration of the Sabbath by the playing of military bands in the parks on the Lord's-day; and would respectfully present to his lordship, as the representative of Her Majesty's Government, the expression of its gratitude and confidence for this act; believing, as it does, that any national infraction of the Divine institution of a day of weekly rest would be injurious alike to the liberties and religion of the country, dishonouring to the laws of the Sabbath, and unfavourable to the real interests of the working classes.

On the motion of the Rev. GEORGE WILKINS, the thanks of the pastors and delegates were unanimously accorded to the Rev. J. Spence, the pastor, and the deacons of the Poultry Chapel, for the use of their commodious place of worship.

The Rev. J. ASHBY read a paper on the "Sustentation Fund" previously brought before the north Buckinghamshire Congregational Union; the consideration of which was adjourned till the next autumnal meeting.

The Rev. E. R. CONDER brought up the "Declaration of Principles." It contained a distinct enunciation of the leading truths of the Gospel, conveyed in simple language adapted to all classes. It was referred to the committee to consider the best form of their presentation to the public.

The benediction having been pronounced, the Union adjourned.

At the subsequent dinner, a resolution on the subject of Dissenters' Marriages was agreed to. It requested the committee to put themselves in communication with the Dissenting deputies, in order to the introduction of a measure into Parliament with a view to the stoppage of the injurious practice of re-marriage. The Rev. T. REES responded to "The Congregational Churches of Wales." The Rev. Dr. M'CLURE acknowledged "America; may the good understanding between her and the Mother Country be perpetuated." Mr. LLOYD replied to "The Colonies; may they continue truly British and be evangelised." Mr. MORLEY proposed a resolution in favour of Mr. Miall's motion for the disendowment of all religious sects in Ireland. It was opposed by the Rev. Dr. CAMPBELL and the Rev. J. A. JAMES, who both considered that it was unwise to divide attention while concentrated, as at present, on the disendowment of Maynooth. An amendment was not moved, however, and the resolution was carried. Another resolution was carried, although not without dissension, in favour of the acceptance of the Government amendments to Sir William Clay's Bill, and the proceedings terminated.

VOLUNTARY EDUCATION.

On Tuesday evening, May 9, a meeting convened by special invitation, and comprising members of the Voluntary School Association, and the Congregational Board of Education, was held at the Milton Club, to confer on the best means of securing practical co-operation between the friends of these two Institutions.

The chair was taken by G. W. ALEXANDER, Esq., who explained the object of the meeting, and strongly urged the importance of carefully examining into the condition of voluntary schools throughout the country, with a view to administer such counsel or encouragement, and pecuniary aid as might be necessary to enable them to preserve their existence and integrity in face of the great temptations and difficulties they have now to encounter. He further referred to the decision of the Voluntary School Association to close their Normal Institutions, in order to devote all the energy and resources of the society to the assistance of schools in destitute localities, and he expressed his hope, that the result of the meeting would be such as to enable the committee to prosecute successfully the important work they had undertaken. The Rev. H. Richard brought up and moved the adoption of the report of a committee appointed at a previous meeting to arrange a plan for the co-operation of the two societies, and referred to the recent debate and victory in the House of Commons, as giving the friends of Voluntary education an advantage which they ought carefully to improve. The adoption of the report was seconded by Samuel Morley, Esq., the treasurer of the Congregational Board of Education, who had no doubt that, if the committee of the Voluntary School Association carried out their proposed scheme of operations with vigour, the Congregational friends would be quite willing cordially to co-operate with them in the work. He could speak very confidently on the point for himself, and he had little doubt that the Congregational body generally would give their support. The Revs. T. James, J. Kennedy, J. H. Hinton, W. Bean, and W. J. Unwin, with Messrs. H. R. Ellington, S. J. Nash, C. Reed, W. Edwards, C. E.

Mudie, J. C. Williams, Jos. Barrett, R. Crossley, and other gentlemen subsequently took part in the proceedings, when the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

That this meeting sincerely rejoices in the prospect of the increased activity of the Voluntary School Association, and earnestly recommends it to a more extended support.

A liberal subscription-list was commenced in the course of the evening, and there seems every prospect of the Voluntary School Association being enabled to prosecute its important work with renewed energy and success.

Anniversary Meetings.

LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this institution took place on Thursday last, at Exeter Hall, and was most numerously attended. The chair was taken at ten o'clock, by JOHN CHETHAM, Esq., M.P. On the platform, besides the directors of the society and the speakers, were the following gentlemen: Sir C. E. Baskley, Bart.; T. Barnes, Esq., M.P.; John Finch, Esq.; George Hitchcock, Esq.; Thomas Thompson, Esq.; Rev. Drs. Archer, A. Morton Brown, Burder; Rev. Messrs. W. Arthur, T. Binney, Newman Hall, Jas. Hill, J. A. James, W. Landels, Jas. Parsons, J. Stoughton, &c., &c.

The CHAIRMAN, in the course of his speech, said: But a few years ago, British missionaries were prohibited entering India, and that under the authority of our Government; now, however, the whole of India, with its 150,000,000 or 200,000,000 of people, was open to Christianity, and blessed results had already manifested themselves there. Yet more recently, China, containing one-third of the population of the globe, though so long sealed to missionary efforts, was now opened by the providence of God, and every barrier had been broken up, not to be reinstated. (Cheers.) It, therefore, became them, at this peculiar juncture of favourable circumstances, to concentrate more unitedly their efforts, and to devote themselves more unreservedly to the aid of their noble society. (Hear, hear.) Three things were mainly wanted. First, the society needed more funds. He was happy to know that he could congratulate them on their present position, their pecuniary means having been considerably increased. Still, he would urge them to follow the example of their Wesleyan brethren, and establish a wider and more systematic method of collecting funds. (Applause.) Then, they wanted more men. How were they, being not a conscription, to get missionaries and members? Only by following the scriptural precept: "Pray ye that the Master send forth more labourers into His vineyard." Lastly, there was a means without which, and disconnected with which, nothing could be achieved—it was that more spiritual power should accompany the men sent. (Applause.)

The SECRETARY (the Rev. Dr. TIDMAN) read the annual report, which stated that the debt of 13,000*l.* announced last year had been happily met. The ordinary income of the society was 45,970*l.*, being an increase of 650*l.* over the preceding year. The legacies of the year were 6,427*l.*—an increase of 4,500*l.* over that item for 1855. The appeal to the juvenile hearts of the society for the repairing and outfitting of the missionary ship John Williams had been generously answered by a sum fully adequate, 3,673*l.* Owing to the vigorous efforts for the liquidation of the debt, 11,846*l.* had been subscribed; and the directors, in consequence of the increased ordinary revenue, had been able to advance the balance, 1,426*l.*, and thus wiped off the debt completely. The contributions from the various mission stations amounted to 14,773*l.*, showing an increase of 2,350*l.* The sacramental offerings in aid of the orphans and widows of missionaries, and aged and disabled missionaries, amounted to nearly 2,000*l.*; and thence valuable assistance had been afforded to twenty widows, forty children, and twelve superannuated missionaries. The sum of 240*l.* was acknowledged from the Presbyterian Church of Scotland, presented towards the efforts of the society for the evangelisation of China. The total income of the society amounted to 82,381*l.*, showing a total increase beyond 1855 of 22,646*l.* The total expenditure for the year, including the liquidation of the debt, the investment of contributions for special objects, together with a reserve of 3,200*l.*, to meet the repairs, &c., of the mission ship, amounted to 79,518*l.*, leaving a balance in the banker's hands of 2,980*l.* The report narrated at length the proceedings during the year at the various scenes of missionary work, commencing with Polynesia. It stated that in Tahiti, the natives successfully counteracted the wiles of Popery, even though priests are placed by the French authorities at the head of schools, under pretence of teaching the language of the Protectorate! In Maré, the sanguinary feuds of rival chiefs are stayed and stanchied by the mediation of a Christian native; and the aggrieved party, instead of eating the peacemaker, and falling upon their enemies, lay down their arms, and "all go to their large house, to listen to the message of the Christian chief." Mr. Buzacott gives an encouraging statement of the native Churches of Rarotonga, and has sent a letter from the Queen, Na Matua, to the treasurer of the society, Sir Culling Eardley—"To the man that holds the money in Britain," enclosing 230 dollars. Similar favourable accounts have been received from the Navigators Islands, from whence the Rev. G. Turner writes that the Scripture had been completed in the Samoan language. "The distant Isles of the Pacific were the first fields of labours on which the fathers of our society entered, and to about fifty of these abodes of

darkness and death, containing nearly 100,000 souls, its faithful missionaries have, during succeeding years, conveyed the light of life; and, in addition to the multitudes who have died in the faith of Christ, there are, at the present time, upwards of 7,000 members in the fellowship of His Church." In no department of the mission field are the people more zealous and liberal in support both of education and religion than in the West Indian Churches. In Barbice the native Christians have established an efficient mission for the conversion of the Indians, the aborigines of the country, which they entirely support by their own contributions. In the same colony, three of the mission stations have already become self-sustained. In Jamaica, an institution has been formed by our brethren for the preparation of a native ministry, and of well-qualified teachers for the schools. Towards the liquidation of the society's debt, the Churches in these colonies have generously contributed nearly three hundred pounds. In reference to the recent outburst of African and Creole jealousy against the Portuguese emigrants from Madeira to Damerara, it is stated that all the missionaries united in repressing the violent spirit of the deluded insurgents; while they have the satisfaction of assuring the directors, that neither their Churches, nor even the members of their congregations, took any part in the outbreak; many, on the contrary, rendering effectual aid as special constables, while not a few, at the risk of their own dwellings being sacked, gave shelter to the persecuted strangers. The colony of the Cape, under the influence of its present benevolent Governor, it was stated, already exhibits decisive indications of social improvement. Great complaint is made of the treaty formed in the year 1852, with the Trans Vaal Boers by Major Hogg and Mr. Owen, the Commissioners of our Government, which threatens the most dangerous results to the liberty and lives of the aborigines. On this painful subject Mr. Moffat observes:—

As to whether the countries through which I have passed are likely soon to become fields for missionary operation I am anything but sanguine. Of the willingness of the natives themselves to receive instruction no doubt need be entertained; but at present the prospect is anything but encouraging. Past events show to a demonstration that between the natives and the Trans Vaal Boers there can be no peace, until the former, as far as they can be reached, shall become the vassals of the latter, whose transactions have hitherto been characterised by a deep-rooted enmity to all missionary operations.

The Mission Churches within the colony, composed chiefly of Hottentots, formerly the slaves of the colonists, are acquiring consolidation and strength. The directors had strongly urged upon the native Churches of South Africa the duty of self-support. The Rev. Robert Moffat, whose visit to Moselekatshe, the barbarian chief of the Matebele, was stated in the society's last report, returned from his extended journey, not only in safety, but much improved in health and spirits. His missionary reputation, as the black man's friend, secured for him a hearty welcome among all the tribes of the interior. The intrepid and persevering missionary traveller, Dr. Livingston, left the settlement of St. Paul de Loanda towards the close of 1854, with a view of taking home his faithful attendants to the town of Sokoletu, their Chief. Having accomplished this object, it was Dr. Livingston's intention to attempt to explore the country to the East, in the full hope that, with that Divine protection which has hitherto been granted to him, he should be able to reach the Portuguese settlements on that coast. The latest account of him is contained in a letter of Mr. Gabriel, the acting British Consul at Loanda, who rendered Dr. Livingston every possible proof of friendship when he visited that city. The letter is dated January 20th. In a letter from Madagascar dated March 6, written by one of the chief officers of the Queen, who was formerly a student in England, Mr. Ellis unexpectedly received permission to proceed, with Mr. Cameron, to the seat of Government. Mr. Ellis left England for the purpose, on the 20th March last. There is an encouraging report from China, where the facilities for propagating the Gospel have been greatly multiplied. Among the Christians are several Chinamen of distinguished literary attainments, and deeply read in the philosophy of Confucius; but they have placed themselves at the feet of the Great Teacher, and entered the kingdom of God as little children. A good proportion of the Church members are females, to whom in China, as in all Oriental countries, access is difficult. The mission Churches at present number two hundred native converts. Even Canton has laid aside this apparently invincible opposition. Reverence has taken the place of indifference and levity. The missionaries travel freely into the interior, not only unmolested, but receiving universal hospitality and kindness. They found that they could travel on preaching tours for several successive weeks, without getting beyond the range of the dialect with which they are conversant. Mr. Muirhead and his party visited sixteen towns and cities, in some of which the Gospel had not been named. "The whole city," he observes by way of instance, "seemed to be gathered together at different points, to meet us on our way; so that thousands must have had the opportunity of hearing intelligently the way of salvation." "Sunday," says Dr. Medhurst, "has ceased to be with us the special day for pulpit labour; every day is the same; and continual preaching has become our business." Within the last three months the directors have received copies of the entire Bible in Chinese, printed at our mission press in Shanghai. The present revised edition, which amounts to nearly a new translation, is the production of the Rev. Dr. Medhurst, the Rev. John Stronach, and the Rev. W. C. Milne, assisted, in the preparation of the New Testament, by the Rev. Dr. Bridgeman, of America. The committee of the British and Foreign Bible

Society bore part of the expenses of the translation, and the outlay for paper and printing has been wholly defrayed from the funds of that Institution. The report stated, since the last anniversary, three additional labourers have been sent forth to China—Messrs. Williamson and John to Shanghai, and Mr. Lea to the city of Amoy. In June next, Dr. Wong Fun will proceed, in the service of the society, to Canton, as an associate of Dr. Hobson. This young Chinaman, who embraced Christianity several years since, has attained the highest distinctions for medical science in the University of Edinburgh. In the course of the present year, the directors anticipate receiving their long-tried and faithful missionary, Dr. Medhurst, whose health needs recruiting. In India, the missionary movement is progressing favourably. "Now," says one at Madras, "we see families, with boys' and girls' schools, walking in crowds to hear the preaching of the Gospel, in various places of worship, and in all parts of the city." The arguing, objecting and disputing of former days, has given place to quiet and reverential listening, not only at Madras, but all over the country. Prejudice has given way; and minds once barred against all appeals, lie open to conviction. "Once," says Mr. Drew, "I could scarcely venture to speak directly of the incarnation of Christ;" but now, this and the whole doctrine of the Gospel are heard with "the greatest attention." These unequivocal evidences of progress are not restricted to a single station, but are found in a greater or less degree, in every mission-field. The education of the youth of India continues to be prosecuted by all our missionaries with that energy which its importance demands. Vernacular and English schools, day-schools, and boarding-schools, are found in connexion with every station. The educational institutions at Calcutta and Madras, the former containing 600, and the latter 400 pupils, have again yielded those blessed fruits to which all the educational labours of our agents are subordinate. In each seminary, five additional young Hindoos have renounced caste and forsaken all for Christ. In the month of September last, an interesting and important meeting was held in the city of Calcutta, consisting of Christian missionaries connected with the Church Missionary Society, the Baptist Missionary Society, the Established Church of Scotland Missionary Society, the Free Church of Scotland Missionary Society, and the London Missionary Society. Their successive meetings occupied four days. During the successive sittings of the Conference ten valuable papers on missionary subjects of the highest interest were read and discussed, and suitable resolutions were adopted. The last of these documents is "An Appeal from the Protestant Missionaries of Bengal then assembled, to the Committees and Boards of Management of the various Missionary Societies in Europe and America." From the table of statistics, given in illustration, it appears that, in the Four Presidencies, containing a population exceeding one hundred and twelve millions, the number of missionaries is less than four to every million. The meetings of the Conference closed with a public meeting held in the Calcutta Town Hall, on the 7th September. The venerable Bishop of Calcutta presided, and it was one of the largest meetings ever held in that city. The directors have sent forth, within the last fifteen months, three additional labourers to India.—Mr. Dennis, to Travancore; Mr. Duthie, to Madras; and Mr. Kübler, to Salem. After offering thanks to Almighty God for the success which had attended the efforts of the society, the report concluded with an appeal for continued support.

The Rev. Mr. GAMBLE moved the adoption of the report.

Mr. BLACK, M.P., most cordially seconded the resolution. He was sure there was no one in the assembly but would bless the Lord for all the goodness and blessing he had made to follow the society throughout its existence. Had domestic benevolence been lessened, or home exertions cramped by the efforts put forth by the members of the society? On the contrary, he believed a great deal of the energy and zeal put forth in promoting the foreign missions of the society, infused itself into societies for the support of the indigent, for providing for the sick, for instructing the ignorant, and for endeavouring to reclaim the vicious. (Applause.)

The Rev. Mr. RICE, missionary from India, supported the resolution. Some one had written that, after all the missionary effort put forth in India, very little had been accomplished; but, from his experience, he was prepared to deliberately deny the statement. Missionaries and their friends had been mainly instrumental in moving the Government of India to a more liberal and enlightened policy—opening India to British civilisation and British religion, suppressing human sacrifices, attempting to abolish infanticide, protecting the Hindoo so that he might adopt Christianity and not lose thereby his all. Christian men and Christian missionaries, through years of obloquy and discouragement, had persevered until they had gained those results. They had mainly changed the aspect of European society in India before the natives, affording to those poor persons the example of holy and enlightened men. Missionaries had done a vast amount of preparatory work which must tell upon the evangelising of India in the generations to come. Missionaries had translated the Bible in whole or in part into nineteen different Indian tongues. From experience he could speak of the close labour, hard study, and patient thought involved in one translation to put those great, grand, and god-like thoughts which were in that Book into a language which never knew them before. The Bible was everywhere a self-evidencing book, coming home to the human heart and conscience, and proving itself by unmistakable signs to be quick and powerful as a two-edged sword. Missionaries were bringing down the

pretensions of a powerful and crafty priesthood. Missionaries had also raised up a body of enlightened, educated young people, who must tell powerfully for good hereafter. Brahmins and orthodox Hindoos railed lustily against Christian missionaries; but opposition implied progress, and showed the Hindoos felt their cause to be a falling one. Further, missionaries had gathered around them a body of converted men, professing Christians, numbering nearly 113,000, and raised up more than 700 native teachers to assist in the work; men, without whom India never could be permanently and extensively evangelised. Christian missionaries had shaken Hindooism to its foundation, leading the people to think the days of that system were numbered. A brother missionary recently wrote to the speaker, acquainting him that when desponding somewhat in the presence of a Brahmin, the Brahmin said, "Cheer up! compare the state of things now with what they were only a year or two ago. Persevere; your religion must prevail. Years may elapse before you obtain the victory; but you must know that an enemy who feels that sooner or later he will be defeated, is, in a measure, already a conquered foe." If they would persevere a few years more, that vast system of Hindooism, already tottering, would fall throughout India. (Applause.) But the work was not done; it had hardly begun.

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

The Rev. Mr. OWEN, minister of St. John's Episcopal Chapel, moved the second resolution:—

That this meeting most cordially congratulates the members and friends of the society, on the extinction, by their united efforts, of the heavy debt with which the year commenced, and on the increase realised in every branch of its annual income; and the meeting most ardently appeals to the several auxiliaries and associations throughout the country, by well organised and liberal efforts, to sustain the funds of the society, and thus enable the directors, without the apprehension of future embarrassment, greatly to increase the number of its devoted agents.

A hymn was then sung, and a collection made.

The Rev. D. KATTERNS, of Hackney, seconded the motion. It seemed unaccountable to him that the London Missionary, and the Baptist Missionary, and other societies, opened the year without debt, and that they generally gave no evidence of having in any way suffered from the circumstances of the public; it amounted almost to a matter of national thanksgiving, the people not only having borne the weight of the war, supplied vast voluntary funds for the alleviation of the soldiers and their dependents, and relatives, but having placed their religious societies engaged in foreign missions and in home duties on so excellent a footing. (Loud cheers.)

The Rev. Dr. McCLURE, of New York, supported the resolution. The wants of the missionary cause resolved themselves into money and men. He had been much struck with the account of the noble British mother who had freely given her son to the great cause of national liberty and human right, for it reminded him of an American mother he knew well, whose actions proved that the good old British blood had not deteriorated in being transported across the Atlantic to that new and mighty England of the West. (Cheers.) She gave her only son to the missionary cause, and he sought his work in the then uncultured field of Sumatra. Having laboured there about a year with an energy and a devotedness that gave the highest auguries of success, he was, in a sorrowful hour, taken prisoner with his colleagues, by the natives, slain, and literally devoured. It devolved upon one, who knew something of the depths of a parent's heart, to break, with the greatest gentleness of expression, the sad tidings to the mother. For a moment she seemed overwhelmed with grief, but with an astonishing calmness and resolution she quickly replied, "O, that I had another son ready to go and take the place of my dear Henry, to tell them of the Saviour who hath so loved them." (Applause.) He rejoiced in being present at the anniversary of a missionary association which more than any other out of their own country, had the confidence and sympathy of American Christians. (Cheers.)

The resolution was put and unanimously carried.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS, Esq., of Huddersfield, moved, and the Rev. Mr. KENNEDY, of Stepney, seconded, the re-appointment of officers for the ensuing year, which was agreed to.

On the motion of the Rev. THOMAS BINNEY, seconded by the Rev. Dr. HARRIS, a vote of thanks was proposed to the chairman; which having been acknowledged, the assembly separated shortly before three o'clock, after singing the doxology.

EVENING MEETING.

The adjourned meeting was held at six o'clock, at Finsbury Chapel, over which the Rev. J. SHERMAN presided. After a brief address from the chairman, the Rev. E. PROUT read a few extracts from the report. The Rev. W. S. EDWARDS moved, and the Rev. JOHN GILL, of Sudbury, seconded, the first resolution. The second resolution was moved by the Rev. R. BALCARNIE, of Scarborough, who said, he was glad that the society had expressed so much confidence in the appeal it had put forth with respect to the John Williams. It was stated that 3,000l. would be required, but the young people of the country had responded to the appeal by contributing 700l. beyond that sum. He regarded that as an indication that the rising race were growing up imbued with the true missionary spirit. (Cheers.) The resolution was seconded by the Rev. R. A. TARTON, of Derby, and unanimously adopted. The Rev. A. M. HENDERSON, of Cork, and the Rev. W. GILL then addressed the meeting. The latter said:—

There were six young men from the South Seas now on the platform, under twenty-five years of age, all of whose parents were, thirty years ago, living in gross idolatry and the most horrible cannibalism, and yet, as a triumph of the Gospel, not one of them had ever seen an idol in their own land. (Cheers.) He begged, on behalf of the South Sea Islanders, to thank British Christians

for the efforts they had made for those islands, and especially the young for their liberal contributions to repair the John Williams. He regretted, however, to state, that, through infirmity, induced by long and devoted labours, Captain Morgan, who took out the missionary ship Camden eighteen years ago, and whose services rendered to the missionary cause in the South Sea Islands, were beyond all value, had been compelled to send in his resignation. He trusted that the meeting would show its thankfulness to Captain Morgan for his past services by some expression of its sympathy. (Loud and continued cheers.) It was gratifying, however, to know, that the chief mate of the vessel, Mr. Williams, who had been with Captain Morgan many years, and who had been carefully trained by him, would succeed him in the command. (Cheers.) Four years ago a complete edition of the Scriptures in the Barotonga language had been sent to that island, and now a second edition, consisting of 5,000 copies, would be forwarded in the John Williams. An institution had been formed there for the education of young men for the ministry, but they possessed very few books. He had made an appeal on its behalf, and he was happy to state, that, as the result, the John Williams would also take out 1,200 copies of a Commentary, after the model of Barnes's Notes of the Prophet Isaiah, the Gospel of John, and Paul's Epistles to the Corinthians. Our stations on the islands are much more numerous than they were ten years ago, but our European missionaries are many less now than then. He had great pleasure in presenting the chairman with a copy of the Commentaries, and though he could not understand it, he would look upon it with great interest, knowing that young men being trained up for the ministry in those lands could both read and appreciate it. (Cheers.)

TU A TUA, a native of Barotonga, and one of the sailors belonging to the John Williams, then addressed the meeting in his native language, which was thus translated by Mr. Gill:—

I have been thinking about the great love of God, which has brought us together. Are we all one in external appearance? Look at us; we are very different in appearance from you. You are so beautiful and lovely that we cannot be compared with you in appearance. We have been brought together; and by this union I have been led to think of the love of God. Did your fathers ever see my father in this country? No; from all generations, never, never. But, now, in the peaceful reign of Jesus, here we all are. (Cheers.) I would like you to know something about the darkness of our land in ages past. Ah! the Devil reigned there then. It was his season then to be king over those lands; and now his reign is completely abolished. I will not tell you about a great number of the people; but I should like you to know something about my own father. Ah! my father worshipped Tongaroa of Barotonga; that was his god. And, besides that, my father was a murderer of men; and all his brethren and family were just as he. They all used to delight in war, and they were all accustomed to cannibalism; but, whilst in that state they were "overtaken" by the Word of God—(cheers)—and even my father, who was once a heathen savage—he was overtaken with the Word of God, and died in the reign of the Word of God. He has not been dead many years. Oh! my brethren, let us all rejoice at this glorious, peaceful reign of Jesus. It is you that have had compassion upon us. Through your compassion all these evils have been subdued. Now, let us all be warriors for Jesus. Ah! be all warriors for Jesus! If not, to whom shall we go? If you will not, you will be overtaken by somebody else. Well, there is only one thing that will be a good thing for us, that is, to regard well the Word of God. I am glad to see you; and in conclusion, I wish you all to be blessed by God.

ISAIA, also a native of Barotonga, then addressed the meeting in his own language, which was translated by Mr. Gill, after which the usual votes of thanks were passed.

THE SURREY CHAPEL SERMON.

(From a Correspondent.)

The annual sermon, in Surrey chapel, was preached on Wednesday morning, the 15th, by the Rev. Newman Hall, B.A., the minister of that place of worship. The attendance was very good, though not so crowded as we have seen it on many occasions. The wetness of the morning, no doubt, kept many away. As usual, the front row of pews in the gallery was occupied by the ministers, to whom in the main, the sermon was addressed. The text was taken from Hebrews, ix. v.

It is impossible in the space we can devote to it, to give even an outline of the sermon. Indeed, the sermon itself was an outline—a very elaborate outline—of the doctrine of the Atonement, as held by the large majority of the ministers and members of the Congregational denomination. At the close of the sermon, Mr. Hall said: "I have preached a missionary sermon, inasmuch as I have put before you the central truth on which all our action is founded." We incline to doubt whether this constitutes a missionary sermon. It certainly does not constitute a Surrey Chapel missionary sermon, judging by what we have previously heard there. There is a sense in which all Christian preaching is missionary preaching. But we do not call these sermons missionary sermons. However, the missionary topic is in no danger of being dropped from our midst, and we see no strong objection to the use of the occasion which this Wednesday morning annually presents for the purpose to which Mr. Hall turned it on this occasion. We speak only from surmise, but we think we are not much mistaken in supposing that Mr. Hall chose his topic, and shaped his discourse, with reference to some recent random and malicious accusations against the preaching of the Denomination, which have proceeded from a quarter we will not name, lest the mention of it should give it an influence it would not otherwise exert. The damage that can be done to our reputation in the back parlours of pot-houses is not likely to be very serious. The people we preach to are not often to be found there. Be that as it may, Mr. Hall set himself to

refute the slander by answering and repudiating many of the doctrinal views of the Rev. F. D. Maurice, and some others more wide of the currently received theology than he. The sermon *retorted* many of the charges brought against this theology by these parties. In some parts the reply consisted of dogmatic assertion unsustained by argument. But we do not look to Mr. Hall for argument. His forte lies in very happy and, occasionally, powerful methods of putting trite truths. He can paint much more easily than he can reason. He can persuade effectually where he cannot prove successfully. This is no disparagement to him, for God's gifts are always distributed variously, and no one possesses all the powers of mind in equal development. Whilst, then, we thoroughly respect his purpose, and admire, to some extent, his fulfilment of it, we think he made a mistake in setting himself this task on this occasion. He did not produce the effect he ordinarily does. The most intelligent and patient of his listeners felt it impossible to follow him as they wished. The kind of thing he aimed at is to be rather attempted by a book than a sermon. One can read thoughtfully a compendium, but one cannot so listen to it. There was many a sentence we should have liked to have weighed—or to have had illustrated—at least put into other forms. But instead of this, the sound of one sentence had not died away ere that of another, equally demanding to be weighed, was confused by mingling with it. Mr. Hall would, no doubt, explain this to us by saying that he had written a sermon three times too long to preach, and could only give us the outline. He has, in fact, written a book which is to be published on Friday. But here was the mistake—to give us in a sermon the outline of a book. We have one more complaint, and that is, the length of the sermon. Even to sustained eloquence, unless it be of the very highest kind, it is impossible to listen with profit for two hours after a long devotional service. How much more impossible to do so when the matter is of the kind we have indicated. If the whole task we set ourselves cannot be accomplished in reasonable time, then we should resolutely set ourselves a shorter one—at least if we wish to succeed.

Our readers must not suppose, however, that we wish to convey the impression that the sermon was anything approaching to a failure. It was simply not thoroughly successful, and that only for the reasons we have mentioned. We look forward to reading the sermon with great interest. As an announcement of the truths whose substance is to be heard in the majority of our pulpits, it is a most complete refutation of the silly charges which one man, who knows no better, is foolish enough to make, and which another, who does know better, is reckless enough to endorse. As a book it must be deemed thoughtful—perhaps it will prove itself successfully argumentative. Mr. Hall's style always has a charm, and on this occasion did not lack its constant characteristic.

LONDON CITY MISSION.

The annual meeting of this institution was held on the 8th inst. in the large room at Exeter Hall, which was crowded. J. P. Plumptre, Esq., presided. The Rev. J. Garwood read the report, which stated that the receipts of the society for the past year amounted to 1,691l. more than those for the year preceding. The number of missionaries was 320, and eleven others were to be appointed which would make an increase of three upon the number employed at the last anniversary meeting. The visits paid during the year were within 109 of one million and a half, or 15,328 more than in the previous year; the readings of Scripture were 461,551, or 29,084 more than last reported; and the familiar meetings held for prayer and exposition of the Scriptures were 30,051, showing an increase of 4,733. Nor had the results, so far as man could judge, been smaller or even stationary. The number of persons received as communicants by their respective pastors, the fruit of missionary effort, was 817—117 more than in any previous year; families persuaded to commence family prayer, 410, an increase of 47; and drunkards reclaimed, 654. The very large number of 302 fallen women have been admitted, through the missionaries' persuasions, into asylums, 109 had been restored to their homes, and 154 in other ways rescued from both temporal and everlasting ruin, making a total of 565 of this abandoned class who during the year had been stopped in their fearful downward course through the instrumentality of the mission. In addition to these cases, 263 couples, or 526 individuals, living improperly together, were persuaded by the missionaries to marry. 153 shops open on Sundays had been closed by the persuasions of the missionaries, which is 13 more than in the previous year. The number of children sent to school by the missionaries was 2,003 above the number of the previous year, the total sent being 11,564. During the year 6,544 copies of the Scriptures had been distributed, and the immense number of 2,278,584 religious pamphlets and tracts, an increase of 185,730. The library volumes of a district are now frequently 500 in number, and consist of standard works, either on religious subjects or on other subjects treated in a religious manner, and these are in continual circulation and exchange, and are receiving constant additions. The number of books lent by the missionaries in 1853 was 13,647, and in 1854, 36,811; in 1855 it increased to 50,458, and in 1856, to 73,949. The adoption of the report was moved by the Bishop of Carlisle, and seconded by the Rev. William Arthur, who, speaking in the name of every Nonconformist then present, exclaimed emphatically, "May God go with Bishop Villiers to Carlisle; bless him there, and make him a blessing to his clergy and his people; and may the same Spirit that breathes through him descend upon all his brethren." (Loud and protracted applause.) The

meeting was afterwards addressed by the Revs. J. H. Garney, J. Stoughton, E. Bickersteth, and other ministers.

THE HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Home Missionary Society was held in the Poultry Chapel, on Tuesday last. The chair was taken by ADAM BLACK, Esq., M.P. The proceedings commenced by singing.

The Rev. Mr. SLACK having offered prayer,

The CHAIRMAN said, that it had been sometimes objected that the multiplication of such societies as those whose interests they had met that night to consider embarrassed one another, and thus only tended to hinder the energies which each society had put forth. A little more examination, however, into this matter would show, that, so far from being hindrances to each other, these societies only tended to promote each other; like the fuel which had been put upon the fire, every part of it only tended to inflame the other; and thus to increase the zeal of the whole. (Hear, hear.) All the branches of that institution, like so many recruiting parties, were endeavouring to persuade men to join the ranks of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. (Hear, hear.) And no sooner did they find a convert brought into the Church of Christ, than that convert considered it his duty and his privilege to join in every effort against the dominions of the Prince of Darkness. The result of such societies as the Home Missionary Society, the Sunday-schools, the Religious Tract Society, and all such, had a tendency to promote the same objects. (Hear, hear.) During the last year, death had been continually thinning the ranks of labour in the Gospel field, and, unless they had been constantly receiving wisdom from on high, the work of evangelisation would have languished in the world. So far from these institutions standing in the way of each other, they all tended to work together to the accomplishment of the one great end, that of increasing the knowledge of the kingdom of Christ and his glory in the world. (Cheers.) He trusted that the efforts of that institution would be such as that one after another in the Churches would enter into the field of labour, and would take the place of those who had passed into their rest, and were now crowned with glory; and that, from time to time, they would hear of the great results from the efforts of that noble institution. He trusted they would continue steadfast, and be always abounding in the work of the Lord. (Cheers.)

The Rev. THOMAS JAMES then read a paper setting forth the precise objects of the amalgamated societies—the British Missions, the Irish Evangelical, and the Colonial Missionary Societies—with the statistical account of each, from which it appeared, that the society of British Missions, during the past year, had received 5,380*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.*, and had expended 6,850*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*; that the Irish Evangelical Society had received 1,696*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*, and had expended 1,875*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.*; and that the Colonial Missionary Society had received 4,441*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.*, and had expended 4,531*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.*

Dr. MASSIE then read the report, which stated, it has been the desire of the committee to conduct these missions at the least expense to the funds of the society, and to increase their reproductiveness as speedily as wisdom would prompt; and therefore, in a recent revision, various reductions have been determined which, it is hoped, will not diminish the efficiency of the agencies. During the year changes have been effected; in some instances by the desire of the missionaries themselves. Six have sought new stations; and five have resigned their connexion with the society, having received invitations to more important positions in the service of Christ. Five of the grantees have removed to stations aided by the society; five more have accepted the pastorate of Independent Churches; two, desiring to find a change of sphere, have resigned; three have entered on spheres in connexion with other associations; and one has separated himself by dereliction of duty and character. In only this last case has any alienation from the principles or ministrations of the society been expressed; and the committee indulge the expectation that their brethren, who have been called to wider and more important congregations or scenes of influence and enterprise, will carry with them sympathies and desires for the progress of this society. To some stations occupied by their agents the committee look with much pleasure, as to missions on which manifest tokens of Divine favour have rested. Portsmouth, Newmarket, and Loughborough, Castle Donington, Cranbrook, and Nasington, Cheriton, North Tawton, and Portland, as the most recently occupied by the present labourers, claim the prayers and sympathies of all who know their condition, and give promise of great usefulness under the present ministrations. The agents and grantees of this society perform their sacred services amid 503,000 people, every one of whom needs the pardon and salvation provided by the Gospel of the grace of God. The stations, situated in thirty-six counties of England and Wales, number 115; and embrace, within 301 parishes, 355 hamlets, villages, and towns—not a few of them in scattered and inaccessible districts. Periodically, 661 chapels and rooms are opened for worship, within which the blessings of salvation are proclaimed to the poor and the sinful, with the assurance that every one will be welcome who shall accept the invitation. An average attendance of 31,025 adult hearers, and an aggregate of 12,883 Sunday-school scholars, brought under intelligible evangelical teaching, are led in devout worship to their God and Father, through Christ Jesus the Lord. The additions made of members during the year have been 469, yielding altogether 4,739 members, in the regular fellowship of 103 mission and grantee churches. Besides village-school and congregational libraries, the

agents of this society promote the circulation and sale of the Scriptures and periodicals. During the year, 1,188 copies of the sacred volume, more than 70,000 magazines, and 100,000 religious tracts, have been sold or given away at the stations of the Home Missionary Society.

E. SWAINE, Esq., moved:—

That the report of the Home Missionary Society, now read, be adopted, printed, and circulated, with a list of the members of committee under the direction of the Board of British Missions, and this meeting assures the agents of the society, that, amidst their arduous duties, they enjoy the sympathy, and are remembered in the prayers, of many whose devout desire is, that the cause of Evangelical truth shall be prospered, and the agencies of this society sustained, till the ministrations of the Gospel are adequately provided for all the people of the land.

He said, that, if the facts contained in the admirable report they had just heard did not move them, he really did not know what was likely to do so. If they considered the position of these missionaries—many of them in the rural districts, as represented in that report—they could not but feel that their duties were, indeed, arduous, and that they required to be sustained by practical manifestations of the sympathies of the Church of Christ. He thought that, for the future, this society should be made an object of more interest and earnest prayer than it had ever yet been, seeing that its claims were so many and pressing, and the encouragements it presented were so great and manifold.

The Rev. Mr. O'NEILL seconded the resolution. When he went down to occupy his district in Devonshire, he found there were forty-two villages and small towns surrounding him. From that time the trumpet of the Gospel had been heard in every one of them. (Hear, hear.) When he first went into his district, there were no chapels, no schools, and no congregations. Since then, by the blessing of God, the Home Missionary Society had built five chapels—(“Hear,” and cheers)—in five different villages. They had now, where they had not one before, six Christian churches; and there were about 310 members in those churches. (Hear.) There were now seven Sabbath-schools, and the Missionary, speaking in the third person—(hear, hear)—had conducted thirteen services fortnightly for the last eighteen years. (“Hear,” and cheers.) Four preachers had gone out from the school, and eleven from the churches. (Cheers.) The Report had spoken of local preachers; he was there to testify that no men in England were honouring God more than were these excellent people. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Biggs, formerly of London, now held the pastorate over the church at Cheriton, and was there labouring with great effort and encouraging success. In twenty-four parishes, 4,424 copies of the Sacred Scriptures had been sold, under the influence of that Society. (Cheers.)

The resolution was then put and carried.

The Rev. G. WILKINS moved:—

“That this meeting recognise the claim of the rural and outlying population of the country on the liberality, zeal, and prayers of the Churches, who are plentifully supplied with the ministrations of the Sanctuary; and remembering that the Redeemer, in His own personal ministry, went throughout every city and village, preaching and showing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God, would commend to His faithful followers His example, and the generous support of Home Missionary operations.”

He said he could bear his personal testimony to the inestimable value of the working of the Home Missionary Society among the rural population to which reference had been made by Mr. O'Neill.

The Rev. DAVID RUSSELL, of Glasgow, in seconding the resolution, said: I think nobody can have listened to-night to the statement communicated to us by the respected Home Missionary without feeling that we are deeply indebted to the Home Missionary Society. It seems to me that Home Missionaries may be looked upon in one respect as engaged in nursery plantations. In the first instance, they rear plants for village churches, and, in the next, they transfer those plants to our city churches. The stream of migration comes from the country to the city. I rejoice in all the good that has been done by this Society; and I trust that, year after year, large additions will be made to its contributions, both of men and money, so that, in every quarter of England, there will be found a noble band of men prepared to do God's work in God's way, and seeking God's blessing. (Cheers.)

The Rev. Mr. REES, of Monmouthshire, moved:—

“That the mission to the mining districts of Monmouth and Yorkshire to which the resources of this Society have already been partially applied, and spheres in the populous towns to which its agents have been sent, require a larger number of Missionaries with increased resources, and demand from the friends of the Society an abundant exercise of liberality to warrant the Committee, by continued efforts, to extend the Gospel without the embarrassment of debt or the inadequate support of ministerial brethren.”

He said: About three years ago, we endeavoured to get two, three, or four agents from the Home Missionary Society to establish English interests in the mining districts of Monmouthshire and Glamorgan-shire. That neighbourhood has rapidly increased in its population of late in consequence of the fruitfulness of the mines, which it is calculated may be worked for a thousand years at the present ratio of consumption. A multitude of the people who come to work these mines are from England, Scotland, and Ireland, and we wish to have men who shall instruct them in the way of life. The Welsh language is not losing ground. The Welsh people are more numerous than ever, and the Welsh churches are as flourishing as ever. (Hear, hear.) We as a denomination have 700 chapels in Wales for a population of one million; at least one of them as large as this chapel; most of them free from debt, and all are crowded by attentive congregations. But these are made up of the working classes. We have but few of the middle, and none of the upper classes among us. It is considered in Wales a mark of respectability to talk English, and to worship in English; so the squire all go to church, and those who ape gentility go to church also. (A laugh.) And it seems clear that we shall lose many of

the people unless we have men who shall preach the Gospel effectively in the English language. The contributions to the London Missionary Society from Wales had fallen off considerably, and the directors wisely sent an efficient deputation to visit the churches; and the result was, that they raised their contributions by 1,000*l.*, if not 1,200*l.* There should, I think, be some such plan adopted for augmenting the resources of this Society. If so, I am confident you would get all that would be needed to support the agents. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. J. DE LIEFDE, in supporting the resolution, said: I am thankful for the opportunity of addressing you upon this platform; because you see before you a Dutch Home Missionary abroad. It pleased the Lord to bless me for ten years in a corresponding sphere to that where you are working. (Hear, hear.) But to speak to you for a few minutes about my own country, let me tell you that, according to the reformed constitution of Holland in 1848, all denominations were declared to be placed on an equality; but, as there is a great difference sometimes between theory and practice, the Reformed Presbyterian Church is still the Church of the Dutch State—the State pays the salaries of the ministers, calls the Synod, and appoints the Professors of Theology; and no pastor may be chosen without the permission and approval of the Crown. As to me, I do not belong to that Church, and I am very glad of that. (Laughter and cheers.) The State does no good to the Church. It uses and abuses it only, as a drunken husband does his wife. (A laugh.) The Church in Holland has been fearfully corrupted by the State. This I proclaim openly in my own country, and that is the reason why I am standing alone; none of the clergy uniting with me. The State-Church of Holland is virtually a Unitarian Church. Of its 1,500 ministers, scarcely 100 of them are Evangelical men. I have now five Missionaries who are entreating me to send them out, but I have not the means. Last year, when I was here, I succeeded in gathering, in England and Scotland, 500*l.*, which was used for the good work of Evangelization; and this year we want 800*l.* I hope I shall leave England again with the same cheerful result as I left it last year. (Cheers.)

Mr. THOMAS THOMPSON moved a cardinal vote of thanks to the Chairman; and, in doing so, expressed a hope that the Committee of the Congregational Union would be able to adopt some energetic measures for the revival and extension of Home Missionary operations.

The Rev. J. W. RICHARDSON, in a sentence, seconded the resolution, which was carried by acclamation; and the meeting separated, after singing the Doxology.

THE PEACE SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Peace Society was held last evening at Finsbury Chapel, under the presidency of Mr. CHARLES HINDLEY, M.P., who began the proceedings by saying: I congratulate you, my friends, from the bottom of my heart, upon the happy circumstances under which we meet to-night. Last year “without were fightings and within were fears.” A bloody war had commenced. Attempts had been made at negotiation: these had failed; and, for one, I saw no prospect of peace so long as I should be permitted to live upon this earth. But it has pleased the all-wise Disposer of events to turn the hearts of men, and to inspire them with the spirit of peace. The consequence is that we have this day to celebrate the termination of the war and the renewal of that state of peace which I trust is destined long to continue. (Hear, hear.) It was questioned in the House of Commons by a noble lord, whether we ought to feel “joy” upon this occasion, and he was almost for moving an amendment to the effect, that while we express “satisfaction” we ought not to feel “joy.” Had he moved this amendment I should have moved another: that the word “great” be prefixed to the word “joy,” and that we should thus declare that this Treaty of Peace gave us “great joy and satisfaction.” (Cheers.) For as Franklin once said, he “never knew of a bad peace or of a good war.” (Hear, hear.) And I must say that I think peace is such a blessing, that whatever terms almost it is made upon, provided that they are at all fair, we ought to feel joy and satisfaction in the advent of peace. (Hear, hear.) I think that now the treaty is before us we shall all be satisfied. (Hear, hear.) I was excessively struck with the language of the Emperor of the French, when he invited the Plenipotentiaries to dine with him in the Hall of the Marshalls, and gave the toast, “Success to the Treaty which we have made: may the peace be perpetual. I believe it will be enduring, because it is founded in justice.” (Cheers.) Now, that it appears to me to be a necessary element of a good peace. There are many people in this country, I dare say, who would have thought it a better peace if it had imposed humiliating terms upon Russia, if it had driven Russia to the North of the Caucasus, and deprived her of a great portion of her territory. I, however, do not think it would have been so good, because it would not have been so enduring. (Hear, hear.) I think Russia has got such terms that she need not desire better, need not hanker after that little bit of Bessarabia which has been given up to insure the public tranquillity of Europe. (Hear, hear.) Russia need not think that she has been degraded by the terms she has agreed to; and, in passing, I may say that I think the way in which the Emperor of Russia has conducted the whole affair, from the very first moment he consented to submit to the terms proposed by Austria, has secured him much honour. (Hear, hear.) I rejoice also in the thought, that the war spirit of the country has very much abated. (Hear, hear.) I was asked before peace was made, by a member of the Government, if I thought it would be safe for Ministers to make peace; and whether, if they did so, they would

be driven from power? I said, "Trust your countrymen; there is such sterling sense in the mass of the people, that when they come seriously to think on the question, they will be satisfied you have obtained peace for them; and great joy will be the result." (Hear, hear.) Is not that the case? (Hear, hear.) It may be a tranquil joy, but it is none the worse for that. There are, indeed, some who wish those gunboats, that some of us with great difficulty had the opportunity of seeing at Spithead,—who think that it is a great pity those boats were not used,—we might have seen Cronstadt destroyed, and a great victory have been the result. I cannot share in this feeling—(hear, hear)—because I cannot but think that we must have sacrificed thousands of lives and driven thousands into eternity. No; let us put away such feelings as these; they are unworthy of men and of Christians. Let us look at the thing as it ought to be looked at, and be thankful to Him who has turned the hearts of all men, so that we have peace throughout the whole of the civilised world. I don't think the Peace Society ought to engage in politics. When we discuss our question let us never forget that the foundation of this society is the cause of God—the God of peace and love. Our principles are derived from the New Testament; and when men begin to talk to us as to our policy, I say, we know no policy except that derived from the Gospel of Christ. (Hear, hear.) At the same time, there is a great temptation to be diverted from this single principle, to the consideration of the politics of the world. At times, perhaps, it may be right and proper to show where individuals may have gone astray; but that ought only to be done for the sake of bringing them back to the great standard which we profess to imitate. Regarding the continued dispute with the United States of America, I may say that I rejoice that the temper of the last despatch of Lord Clarendon was of such a character that I trust it will have its weight with the Government of the United States. I do hope that if the difficulty is not removed, my friend Mr. Sturge will start off to Washington or New York, and I will volunteer to accompany him; and we will see if we cannot get the matter settled by arbitration.

The Rev. HENRY RICHARD then proceeded to review the history of the Peace movement during the past year. He congratulated the meeting, in the name of the committee, on the altered circumstances in which they met that night, as the rainbow of peace once more spanned the horizon. (Hear.) The time had not yet come to estimate with historic impartiality the results of the late war, so as to determine whether the nations have gained or lost by their sanguinary venture. But it was certain that many of the objects which were thought to justify the war, and which chiefly excited on its behalf the generous but mistaken enthusiasm of the people of this country, had failed in accomplishment, even in name, if indeed, they were not placed in a position incomparably less advantageous and hopeful than before. (Cheers.) The thrones of despotism were not overturned, but more securely established. The oppressed nationalities whose names and wrongs were the most exciting themes in all popular demonstrations in favour of the war, were not once mentioned in the deed of settlement, by which it was concluded. (Hear, hear.) And in regard even to the more limited and defined objects, avowed by statesmen and diplomatists as a justification of the war, it is very doubtful whether events may not soon demonstrate, that here, also, our frightful expenditure of blood and money will have been of no avail. (Loud cheers.) During the past year the committee had not abandoned the field to the unchecked licence of popular passion. (Hear.) Mr. Richard then entered into details of meetings, which had been attended by Mr. Arthur O'Neill, Mr. Edmund Fry, Mr. Samuel Bowley, himself, and other friends of the cause. He referred, also, to the labours of the Stop-the-War League, whose meetings had been principally addressed by Mr. George Thompson, Mr. W. Wilks, Mr. P. Edwards, Mr. B. O'Brien, Mr. Chesson, and others. Altogether, not fewer than 150 meetings and lectures have been held during the past year; and, only in four or five instances, did the War party succeed in creating a disturbance or carrying an adverse resolution. (Cheers.) During the last twelve months, the committee had issued no less than 200,000 publications, among which "The History of the Origin of the War" was especially worthy of notice. Mr. Richard deplored the unhappy differences subsisting between this country and the United States, and stated that the committee, in conjunction with the League Brotherhood, had been the means of causing a large number of friendly addresses to be forwarded to the United States from various parts of this country. (Applause.) It was to be hoped that so monstrous an act of folly and wickedness as a war between England and America, was not a possible, much less a probable, issue of the points now under discussion. (Loud cheers.) Mr. Richard then described the Peace Conference Committee's interview with Lord Palmerston. Mr. Richard furnished detailed particulars of this deputation, which recently presented memorials in favour of arbitration to the Peace Congress at Paris. He said that they were received by Lord Clarendon with a courtesy and a frankness which merit their warmest acknowledgments. His lordship candidly stated some of the objections which he apprehended might stand in the way of the full accomplishment of the object in view; but promised to do his best to have the matter fairly considered by the Congress. This promise, as it has since appeared, the noble lord most nobly redeemed. (Hear, hear.) For at the meeting of the Congress, held on the 14th April, he introduced the subject in a spirit of earnestness and humanity, that was most honourable to his character, and which could not fail to secure for it the most serious attention of that august assembly. The proposal was accordingly fully discussed. Count Walewski declared

himself authorised to support the idea, as one that was fully in accordance with the tendencies of our epoch. (Cheers.) Baron Manteuffel spoke to the same effect, and ultimately, the Plenipotentiaries agreed to express their conviction that States, between which any serious misunderstanding may arise, should have recourse, as far as possible, to the good offices of a friendly Power. (Loud cheers.) The experience of the last two years had taught the committee that the work they have to do is rather to enlighten the minds of the people than to influence the policy of governments. (Hear, hear.) For themselves, in reviewing the course they had pursued during the late war, they had no regrets to express, no recantation to make, no equivocal conduct to explain away. (Cheers.) They had not sought refuge from censure and obloquy in a compromising silence, or in the utterance of vague and pointless generalities. They had endeavoured, with a firm and resolute arm, to hold aloft the banner of peace, even when the destroying storm of war was rushing most furiously through the heavens. In doing so they were aware that they incurred great unpopularity and odium. But for this they felt that they had abundant compensation in the testimony of a good conscience, and, as they firmly believed, the approving smiles of the very God of peace. (Cheers.) A cash statement showed an income of 1,678*l.*, and a balance in hand of 471*l.*, a legacy of 300*l.* having lately been received.

The Rev. JOHN BURNET moved:—

That this meeting hail with deep satisfaction and devout gratitude to God, the restoration of peace to Europe; and cannot but regard the late sanguinary struggle, so profligate as it has proved of material and moral injury to the nations, as affording abundant illustration of the incurable folly and wickedness of war, and as demanding still greater earnestness and activity on the part of the friends of peace, in the diffusion of those great principles of Christian truth and duty, which can alone effectually abolish this deplorable custom.

He had been put forward to move this, the first resolution; and on the Peace question he was very willing to occupy any place the committee chose to put him. He wished this to be the feeling of all the friends of peace; for if every man were to take his place, whatever it might be, and occupy it boldly and perseveringly, upon this great question, the peace of Europe, could never be disturbed. (Hear, hear.) Some people said they agreed with the Peace Society in the abstract, but objected to its practical working; but those who talked in this way, he entered into an elaborate argument to show, knew not what they were talking about and that their opinions were not founded on principles. If a man of this sort were hung for being a philosopher the perpetrator of the act would be guilty of murder. (Laughter.) Some of these abstract gentlemen held that war might under certain circumstances be just and necessary; but according to the resolution all wars were both unnecessary and unjust. (Hear, hear.) The resolution was a rational resolution. It called upon the meeting to be thankful to God for peace. There was something manly and rational in that, and such an acknowledgment as became creatures when remembering the overruling power of the Creator. But there were some who intended to manifest their gratitude by fireworks, thereby adding to the waste of the national funds; and as it appeared by the lamentable occurrence at Woolwich, to the loss of human life. He considered several of the various grounds on which war had been justified and applauded; but he could not believe that if looked at in its real nature it would be possible for Christian men, at least, to advance even a single argument for destroying the lives of their fellows. The courage displayed by the warrior had been often dwelt upon and glorified, but he contended that moral courage was infinitely more noble, and by far less easy to maintain. He rejoiced exceedingly in the fact that one of the "abstract" principles of the Peace Society had been embodied in the documents drawn up by the Paris Congress—that, namely, of arbitration. (Hear.) The friends of peace used to be laughed to scorn when they proposed that such a simple expedient should be acted upon in the case of national disputes; but now the laugh must be directed against the representatives of all the Great Powers of Europe. (Hear.) But the resolution spoke of the "folly and injury" of war. It was not necessary he should dwell on the "injury" it had done. When they looked at the 700,000 deaths, and the hundreds of millions of money lost to the nation, and at the moral debasement that always must follow the mortal conflicts with men, nothing needed to be said about the injury of war, it was palpable and undeniable. And now we had come to the close of the war, let us honestly confess what fools we were for going into it. (Cheers.) The resolution, in the last place, spoke of duty—the duty of endeavouring to keep the peace which we now enjoy. How was that to be done? Just by repressing the warlike spirit, in our children, our social circle, in our periodical press, and in the pulpit also, for he deeply regretted to say that the war spirit had found its way to the pulpit as well as to other places. (Hear, hear.) Where you find the spirit strongly urged and earnestly cultivated by the public press, he would say, have done with such papers—let them know that you won't buy their fire and brimstone. (Laughter and cheers.) Let them know that you don't want gunpowder papers. There is already a disposition to get better papers than those which are hardly to be distinguished from cartridge paper. (Cheers and laughter.) Make them feel that they must not only come down a penny, but must change their tone if they would continue to live. (Cheers.) Give them to understand you can have a *Morning Star* and an *Evening Star*—(cheers)—without that daily *Sun* that always rises in clouds and sets in darkness. (Laughter and cheers.) When they feel this they will change their tone. (Hear, hear.) The papers are nothing more than the breath of the community; and if you make them gasp for breath of their own, when

they find that you will not blow the bellows, you will very soon be able to spread the peace spirit over the land. (Hear, hear.) He was sorry to be obliged to say that many pulpits even had been breathing the war spirit. But let this society go on in its work, and every passing event will be found to roll on to that goal which the society has sought to attain, when peace shall cover the earth; for whatever might be the difficulties connected with the securing of universal peace, it must and should come. (Cheers.) Mr. Burnet then proceeded to caution his hearers against confounding modern wars with the wars of the Jews, and was interrupted by a Mr. Harris, who has always something to say at this meeting, who demanded to be informed how Mr. Burnet knew that the wars of modern nations were not designed, as much as those of the Jews, for the punishment of nations. To this Mr. Burnet replied, that if an audible voice from heaven was heard now, commanding to go to war, as in the cases to which he referred, he should be quite prepared to make war; but he felt quite sure that he should never hear that voice—(cheers)—the voice from heaven now being, "Peace on earth, and good-will among men." (Renewed cheers.)

Mr. E. F. COLLINS, editor of the *Hull Advertiser*, seconded the resolution. He joined gladly in humble thankfulness to Almighty God, that the present meeting was not convened under such circumstances as those of last year. We had peace now, and could not but be grateful for it; but unless the tone of the press and of the people of this country be considerably changed with regard to many questions coming up for debate, and unless we could persuade ourselves to attend more closely to our own business, and to leave the business of other nations alone, he was afraid that we should not have peace long. (Hear, hear.) Not only had there been said of late a great deal about our brethren on the other side of the Atlantic, which ought not to have been said, but great efforts had been, and were being made to produce disturbance in Italy, and to sever thereby our alliance with Austria, and so get rid, perhaps, of some of our other recently-made allies. (Hear, hear.) He was not an advocate for arbitrary Governments in any part of the world; but, before we attempted to correct the course of other Governments, let us, in the name of all that is consistent, first look at our own. (Cheers.) A little consideration, in the light of history, of the way in which India and Ireland, for example, had been governed by English statesmen, might teach a lesson of modesty, and already we had enough on our hands in the way of reforming our abuses, without interfering with continental Governments. An Italian or an Austrian, he did not doubt, would be able to make out a bad case against us, if he went to work in the same way as we did when we described the despotism of the Governments, and the consequent sufferings of their political prisoners. Much, no doubt, might be said of such exiles of Britain as Frost, Williams, and Jones, and Smith O'Brien, of illustrious and Royal lineage, and deep sympathy awakened on their behalf, even on the Continent; while the wrongs of Ireland would furnish a fruitful theme of indignant eloquence. It should be remembered that the day had not long gone by when multitudes of men were held in slavery by the British Government; and that liberty had made but slow progress in this land of ours. (Hear, hear.) He read in a newspaper of some pretensions, the other day, a paragraph to the effect that the people of England would rise in their might before long and overturn the despotic Governments of Italy, and kings and kinglings should be hurled from their thrones. But it seemed to be forgotten that kings and kinglings were never got at until immense masses of the people were first consigned to their graves. (Hear, hear.) It was the voice of the people properly exercised that did more for the advancement of liberty than all the wars had done since the birth of Christ. (Cheers.) Would any man say now that if the statesmen of England and the bishops of England had joined the members of the peace deputation to the Emperor Nicholas three years ago, the late war would not have been averted? (Hear, hear.) He believed that by such a course the war might not only have been prevented, but that the object for which so much blood had been shed would have been far more completely secured. (Hear, hear.) The effect of such a mission would have been prodigiously to advance the principles of peace in all the nations of Europe. It would take years before the wounds now inflicted upon the body politic of Europe were completely healed. And it became the friends of peace, therefore, to instruct the people of this country to refrain from all interference with the affairs of Italy, or of any other part of the Continent, and to endeavour, instead, to repress the war spirit that seemed now to prevail. By ruling their own country well the statesmen of England would do far more for liberty abroad than by drawing the sword in its behalf, because they would be setting an example that, in the long run, must produce an influence on other Governments.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Hindley being obliged to retire, Mr. BELL, M.P., took the chair.

Mr. JOSEPH STURGE moved:—

That this meeting cordially approves of the efforts made by the Peace Society and the Peace Conference Committee, to obtain recognition, in the new Treaties recently concluded, for the principle of international arbitration as a substitute for war; and would express its earnest gratitude to Lord Clarendon, for having introduced the subject to the attention of the Congress.

He contrasted with pleasure the present position of the country with that which it occupied this time last year. Never did he feel more discouraged than at that period, on account of the war feeling that prevailed. He had hoped that the efforts of the Peace Society, and a generation of peace, had made his countrymen wiser. But it did not seem to be so, and he had almost come to the conclusion that those interpreters of mystery who asserted that the world must

be worse before it is better, were right. The resolution referred to international arbitration; and expressed gratitude to Lord Clarendon for his efforts in getting such a clause inserted in the treaty. Such conduct was certainly very noble of Lord Clarendon, knowing, as he must, that the principle of arbitration had been enered at by a powerful political party in this country. (Hear, hear.) Lord Clarendon, no doubt, looked to a higher reward than human applause; but even this would not be wanting; for depend upon it, that his name in connexion with this act would be remembered and honoured when the name of the greatest conqueror by the sword had been forgotten or execrated. It was, in his opinion, impossible to overrate the value of this recognition of the principle of arbitration, by all the Great Powers of Europe. The British Legislature might be considered as unanimously approving of it, and some of the most able men in the House of Commons had spoken in commendation of it, while not a single word had been said by way of disapproval. Mr. Sturge proceeded to dwell upon the horrible character of war, as illustrated in the sacrifice of life and treasure occasioned by it, and mentioned the circumstance of 500 men going out from one port of France, only a year ago, to the Crimea, every man of whom, except three, had been cut off either by disease or in the conflict. He was glad to know that many ministers of the Church of England had privately encouraged the Peace Society's efforts all through the war, in a variety of ways; and believed that they were to a larger extent the friends of the peace principles than were the Dissenting ministers. (Hear, hear.) He could not comprehend for his own part, how any minister of Christ could advocate war of any kind; for if he (Mr. Sturge) gave up his peace principles he thought he must of necessity give up his Christianity too. Adverting to the great importance of instilling peace principles into the minds of the rising race, and of associating peace in their minds with pleasant recollections, Mr. Sturge mentioned that on the previous day at Birmingham, 4,000 children, "Bands of Hope," had been gathered together, to celebrate the peace, when a simple medal was distributed to each, on which was inscribed a dove with an olive branch, surrounded by the words of the Saviour, "Peace on earth," and bearing the date of the signing of the treaty in Paris by the representatives of the Powers. And as Mr. Hindley had presented him (Mr. Sturge) with a medal when they were lately together in France, he would now take the liberty of presenting to him for his little grandson, happily born to him six months ago, a similar token. (Cheers.) Mr. Sturge, in conclusion, referred in a few touching sentences to the relative affliction of Mr. Cobden and the personal affliction of Mr. Bright, and drew forth the evident sympathy of the meeting. Both these gentlemen, he was sure, must be rejoiced exceedingly in their retirement at the course which events had taken regarding the war, because, in the emphatic words of Mr. Bright, they had the priceless consolation of knowing that they had not been parties to the squandering any portion of their country's treasure, or the shedding of one drop of their country's blood. (Cheers.)

The Rev. ARTHUR O'NEILL, Baptist Minister of Birmingham, seconded the resolution in a lengthy speech on the general subject of peace, and comparing and contrasting the present condition of this country with that which it presented at the close of the last war, the great French revolutionary war, when the Peace Society was founded. He denied that war had ever advanced liberty, and earnestly besought the people of England to prevent any new conflict being begun for the purpose of lessening the despotic power of the rulers of the Continent. More harm than good must necessarily come of such an enterprise. Suffering and perseverance alone, would establish liberty anywhere. Liberty would not work with murder. The soldier could not understand liberty nor help it. Mr. O'Neill reprobated the conduct of many so-called ministers of the Gospel who had defended the war from their pulpits, and read an extract from the discourse of Dr. Cumming, on the Thanksgiving Sunday, as repeated in the *Times*, which called forth cries of "Shame, shame," from the audience. The preacher represented that another conflict was at hand, and gloried in the thought that into that war "those ignominious nations" which had kept out of the last, would be drawn. Dr. Cumming also represented a certain officer in the Crimea, as exhibiting "our Christian life in its noblest form;" and yet this man, said Mr. O'Neill, had not only murdered men himself, but given orders to others to murder likewise. He then went over a number of the lessons which the war supplied to the people of England, and expressed the hope that they would not be lost upon us.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Mr. G. W. ALEXANDER moved:—

That this meeting regards with regret and deep anxiety, the differences that have lately arisen between the Governments of Great Britain and the United States, and deprecates, in the strongest manner, the tone of irritation and distrust adopted by some of the leading journals in this country, as enhancing incalculably the difficulty of a peaceful adjustment, and the consequent danger of war; while they would still cherish the confident hope, that the Christian feeling of these two great nations will save them from a war, so dishonourable to religion, and so calamitous to the cause of humanity and freedom. The subject of the resolution had been adverted to in the report, and, as the hour was late, he declined to make a speech, but expressed his horror at the bare possibility of a war with America, and which he could not believe the people of either country would ever suffer to take place.

Mr. EDMUND FRY seconded the resolution. He did not believe that either the sophistry of the press, or the bungling of diplomatists, would precipitate the two greatest nations upon the earth into a deadly conflict.

The resolution having been cordially passed,

The Rev. E. KELLEY moved, and the Rev. H. RICHARD seconded, a vote of thanks to Mr. Hindley,

M.P., and Mr. Bell, M.P., for their occupancy of the chair on the occasion, which was carried by acclamation, and the meeting separated.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF YOUNG FEMALES.—The anniversary festival of this society was celebrated at the London Tavern on Tuesday week. Mr. Talbot stated, that the society had been in existence about twenty years, during which time it had been the means of closing between 600 or 700 improper houses in this metropolis, and of rescuing over 600 young girls under fifteen years of age from a life of depravity and destitution. The income for the year reached the sum of 1,559l. 11s. 9d., while the expenditure amounted to 1,488l. 18s. 1d.; leaving a balance of 75l. 13s. 8d. in the hands of the treasurer.

THE PEACE CELEBRATION.

In anticipation of the immense concourse that will press into the Green-park at the illuminations, to-morrow (Thursday) week, the authorities have deemed it advisable to form five additional openings into that park; three from Piccadilly—one opposite Devonshire House, another facing Down-street, the third opposite Apsley House—the fourth on Constitution-hill, facing the entrance to the park from Grosvenor-place, and the fifth near Sutherland House. Each of these is 60 feet in width.

It is said that the experimental trials of the fireworks which have taken place in the marsh at Woolwich, leave no doubt that the national exhibition of the 29th will be pronounced one of unparalleled splendour and magnificence.

The Lord Mayor has been in communication with some of the principal public companies and the representatives of the mercantile and manufacturing interests, and there is every reason to believe that a general holiday will be arranged for the 29th inst., so far as it is possible to effect that object without the aid of the Government. It is also hoped and believed that there will be no suspension of wages. The illuminations at the British Museum are intended to be on a scale of splendour rarely surpassed. The preparations at Somerset House, the Ordnance-office, Pall-mall, the War Department, Admiralty, Horse Guards, and other public offices, are on a most extensive and magnificent scale. It is stated that Buckingham and St. James's Palaces are to be illuminated. In the City great activity prevails.

THE SATURDAY HALF-HOLIDAY.

Mr. Mechi, of Leadenhall-street and Regent-street, has made arrangements for allowing his assistants a half-holiday on alternate Saturdays—the services of an equal number being dispensed with on each Saturday throughout the year. The houses situated chiefly in Newgate-street, and dealing in fancy German articles, Berlin wool, and such like goods, have commenced closing on Saturdays two hours earlier than heretofore. Messrs. G. Hitchcock and Co., St. Paul's-churchyard, on Saturday acted upon an arrangement for allowing a third of their assistants, engaged in the retail departments, to leave business each Saturday at two o'clock, thus giving the whole of them a half-holiday once in three weeks. By means of the new rule just issued by the learned Judges, a Saturday half-holiday is virtually conceded to that numerous body the legal profession. Most of the firms in the lead and window glass business, in the New-road, Tottenham-court-road, Edgeware-road, Oxford-street, and certain other districts, have recently adopted the plan of closing two hours earlier on Saturdays than previously.

A deputation from the Early Closing Association waited on Sir George Grey at the Home-office yesterday, on the subject of the Saturday half-holiday in the Government offices and works. The deputation comprised the Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Hon. Arthur Kinnaird, M.P., the Marquis of Blandford, Mr. J. J. Mechi, Rev. T. Binney, Rev. J. H. Gurney, and Mr. J. Lilwall. Mr. Lilwall said he believed that in all cases where the half-holiday had been granted, no reduction had been made in the pay, for the reason that it was found that the men, exerting themselves with greater spirit, application and energy, really did as much work in the five days and a half as before they did in six. Mr. Lilwall read a letter received that morning from Sir Morton Peto in which the honourable baronet stated that he "deeply felt the importance of the Saturday half-holiday, and believed that, if the Government adopted it in their establishments by way of example, the greatest good would result." The society he (Mr. Lilwall) represented was very desirous to obtain the services of the bands in the parks on Saturday afternoons, but finding that the carrying out of that arrangement did not properly belong to the Government, it was intended to apply to the commanding officers of regiments with that view. Sir G. Grey stated that the reason why the Government had interfered in the Sunday band question was, because they thought that, as a band had for some time been playing on certain week-days in Kensington-gardens, it was due to persons in the east end of London that they should have a similar privilege.

THE MILITARY INQUIRY AT CHELSEA.

At a meeting of the Board of officers, on Wednesday, a letter was read from Sir John McNeill, stating that his health would not permit him to attend—even if that obstacle had not existed, he could not depart from his intention of not appearing until he was better acquainted with the precise objects of the inquiry. The Judge-Advocate also read a certificate from Sir James Clark and Mr. Martin, stating that Colonel Tulloch, "although convalescent, was still in such a

state of debility as to render him quite unfit for the transaction of any business." Colonel Wetherall, Major Hackett, Colonel Derrymann, and Mr. Watson were examined by Sir Richard Airey to show that he had properly discharged his duties, but without proving anything new. Sir R. Airey then made his final statement, contending that he had fully disposed of the charges brought against him. Colonel Gordon next proceeded with his statement. He referred to omissions in his evidence, as printed in the Commissioners' report, and he produced evidence from Lord Raglan, Lord Hardinge, and Sir R. Airey, as being evidence of his zeal and ability. On Thursday, the Judge-Advocate read a letter from Sir Charles Trevelyan; who declined to avail himself of the permission of the Board to attend the inquiry during Mr. Filder's examination, as he has "no reason to complain of any part of the report of the Commissioners, and as a full explanation has been furnished of the proceedings of the Treasury in reference to the supply of forage." Mr. Filder made a long explanation, but was indistinctly heard. He was understood to dwell upon the difficulties that beset him; to complain of the inadequacy of his staff—all of his officers were not of the "right sort;" and to show that he had done his best to supply the army. On Friday, Mr. Filder concluded his defence, and the Board adjourned till Monday.

The inquiry closed on Monday. After short statements from Captain Heath, Colonel Mackenzie, and Colonel Gordon, the latter said, that, as Colonel Tulloch's statement was a very lengthy document, and very carefully done, he should wish for time to put in his own statement in an equally careful way. The President then inquired of the Judge-Advocate General whether there was any further evidence? The Judge-Advocate General replied that he had received no other applications from any persons complaining of the report of the Commissioners to give evidence before the Board. The President: Under these circumstances the Board will adjourn. This terminated the sitting, and it is to be presumed the public inquiry altogether; and it is, perhaps, not amiss to add, that during the twenty-three sittings every member of the Board has been present throughout.

CONCERTS AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

The first of the series of twelve concerts which Mr. Gye, of the Italian Opera, has succeeded in arranging with the Crystal Palace Company, was given on Friday last, and was entirely successful. The aspect of the Palace has much changed during the week that has elapsed since Her Majesty was present at the inauguration of the Scutari Monument and the Peace Trophy. This last has itself received the addition of the symbolic statues, whose absence from its niches so much spoiled the effect on the day of inauguration. But even with these we cannot rid ourselves of the impression that it is a somewhat lumbering affair; and the gaudy wreaths of artificial flowers strike us as greatly out of place in the Crystal Palace, at every point of which nature is hanging her fresh and living glories. It may be a new idea; but we do not admire it, nevertheless, to put marble in millinery. We have almost looked, once or twice, for one of the new little bonnets at the back of the angel's head. But the water lilies are fast bursting into bud, and the rhododendrons and azaleas in the long gallery leading from the railway have burst into full bloom. The geraniums are already following their example.

The company was not quite as great as was anticipated, numbering only some 3,500 two-guinea season-ticket holders. There was, nevertheless, a splendid auditory whose presence and plaudits could not fail to produce an inspiring effect on some of the accomplished artists. As early as one o'clock, a number of the front seats of the concert-room were occupied, and by two o'clock the space was about half filled. There was a general impression that the performance was to commence at two o'clock, and a few rolls of British thunder began to announce that British impatience was beginning to bubble and might soon boil over. But it soon got to be understood that three was the hour, and not two, and so we all patiently awaited that hour.

The concert-room is a portion of the north nave, reaching from the English Medieval Court on the one side and the Greek on the other, to the Roman and Egyptian courts. The galleries have been shut off by side walls. A large orchestra has been erected similar to those hitherto in use in the Palace, but more tasteful in decoration and ample in dimensions. A thickly-painted tarpaulin, or something of the kind, has been hung immediately above this, to form a musical roof, and long canvas curtains hang down at the end of the concert-room, forming an effectual barrier to painful reverberation. The most pianissimo passage was distinctly heard. We were at one time at the far-end of the building whilst Herr Formes was singing, and heard the roll of his magnificent bass with perfect distinctness and even fulness.

The programme was arranged to suit a popular audience, and the music, whilst the very best of its kind, was heterogeneous in its character. The concert was under the directorship of Mr. Costa, who was warmly received. Nothing could exceed the precision and delicacy of the two instrumental pieces—the overtures to *Oberon* and *Massaniello*. The well-known madrigal, "Down in a flowery vale," was heartily enjoyed. We thought, however, that the chorus needed a little more careful drill. There was too strong and abrupt transition from *forte* to *piano*. The shadow was too strongly marked. The *forte* was coarse; it was shouted rather than sang, and there was not enough delicacy about the *piano*. It is very likely that the chorus singers thought they must sing loudly because of the vastness of the place. Of the execution of the parts by the more eminent artists, we need not

speak at length. All was done exceedingly well. The quiet ease and absence of visible effort in Grisi and Mario, contrasted strongly with the singing of some of their companions. Middle Jenny Ney, in the "Scena from Der Freischütz," produced a powerful sensation. Her voice rang and rolled through the whole building. She had caught inspiration from the eyes of the thousands who were listening to her with rapture, and sang as none can sing but those who are upborne beyond themselves by such inspiration. And yet we saw and felt the effort. Perhaps it was not possible to be otherwise. But if there could have been perfect quietude of body, or even a little more repose, the effect upon ourselves would have been immensely heightened.

If the first concert be a promise, or a prophecy of those which are to come, the directors and Mr. Gye will have well earned the thanks of the public; they cannot fail to be popular. We only wish it were possible for the public in a wider sense to hear them.

This evening, the "Stabat Mater" and Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise" will be performed at St. Martin's Hall, under Mr. Hullah's superintendence. Amongst the vocalists are Madame Clara Novello and Miss Dolby.

Spirit of the Press.

The Press finds it very difficult to come to any decided conclusion respecting Lord Ranelagh's resolutions relative to the Carlton Club:—

There can be only two parties in this country, Tories and Whigs, or Conservatives and Liberals, in modern parlance. Gentleman who have no side in politics ought to belong to "White's," or the "Athenaeum," the "Wyndham," "Garriek," or some other non-political society. In "political" clubs, common principles, the same objects, the same antipathies, and the same recognised leaders, would seem to be fair tests of membership. The *idem nolle atque idem velle* might fairly be applicable to those societies, and "the spirit of a gentleman" should, as a matter of course, regulate the conduct of all. We cannot, however, offer any decided opinion on the special subject of Lord Ranelagh's letter, which exclusively belongs to the decision of the members of the Carlton Club.

The controversy respecting Mr. Lynch's "Hymns for Heart and Voice," seems interminable. One of our dissenting contemporaries has only just completed a series of ponderous articles in the *Morning Advertiser* style, which would probably occupy more than a couple of little volumes such as the one professedly under criticism. Another daily newspaper has dealt with the subject, though in a spirit very different from the *Advertiser*. The *Morning Star*, in dignified style, reviews the controversy from a literary, rather than a theological point of view, and concludes with the following well-expressed sentiments:—

In our judgment, the men who, while professing ultra-Protestant principles, concoct newspaper and pulpit conspiracies to crush the professional character and blast the prospects of a young ministerial author, are the most mischievous "Papists" extant, at least in this country. Therefore it is that we introduce to our readers certain Protestant editors and religious critics. The Nonconformist bodies are the historical champions of English liberty. They have produced heroes, martyrs—aye, and conquerors—for the popular cause. They have been the nurses of free thought, the guardians of a pure faith, the pioneers of political progress. They were never, in proportion to the entire population, so numerous and wealthy as now. They were, therefore, never so capable as now of doing honour to their principles and service to their country. Yet do we find them submitting to be tutored by an amateur theologian, and a representative "brother," into the suppression of all literary aspiration, and all intellectual activity. They know that for one of their rising ministry to be attained of "heterodoxy," is to be exposed to heavy penalties, personal and social; yet do they permit an *ex cathedra* inquisition, whose emissaries respect not the sanctity of friendships or even of family, to have its mouthpiece in their organs, and to exert a mental terrorism over their institutions. Since the "secular press" may advise them on the one side, it may advise them on the other; and our counsel to them is, Stand fast in the freedom wherewith your fathers—a Milton and a Cromwell—have made you free.

The *Spectator* does not look at the French alliance with entire complacency, but sees clouds in the distance:—

The first act in the alliance with France and England has been accomplished. The Emperor of the French and his lieutenants have made peace at the moment when it suited them—somewhat later than the enemy would have liked, somewhat earlier than either of the immediate Allies desired. By the peace concluded at his own time, the Emperor has obtained many objects important to himself. The English alliance having done so much for Louis Napoleon—having indeed, as some think, already exhausted its influence by giving him all that he wanted—a question naturally occurs to those who speculate on future probabilities, how far he is likely still to cultivate the alliance—to continue the relations of the last two or three years upon so close a footing. An Englishman in Paris, who lives much in French society, has been at the pains to give us in the present week a minute report of the actual state of feeling in that society. He confirms assurances which we have before received, also from persons equally qualified to report, that the Russian war was never popular with the people of France; that the English have been regarded as the dupes of one man, who has used them for his own purpose; and that therefore, we have not, in our recent sacrifices, obtained an alliance with France, but only an alliance with "the Emperor of the French."

Attention is then called to the high position occupied by France in relation to the other states of Europe:

Austria evidently reckons upon him for combating the efforts of liberty, and for aid in putting down the press throughout Europe—a primary object with the Austrian Government. Russia endeavoured to conciliate his favour, manifestly reckoning that the decision of the Emperor Napoleon would determine the fate of Russia in the Conference. Prussia perhaps looks as much to England as to France; but Prussia is ever a neutral state. The Sardinian Government, which might have been expected to be allied so completely to England, rests its hopes of assistance on the successor of that monarch who, crowned at Milan with the iron diadem, established the "regno d'Italia"; and it is indeed remarkable that Piedmont rests its chief hope of success on the patronage of that same monarch who is the patron of the Pope. So that Austria, Russia, Piedmont, Prussia, and Pope, are all looking up to France as the central Power; while England also reposes her faith upon the French alliance. There appear to be some incompatible expectations here!

An article on "Social Progress" is based on the presumption that as civilisation progresses crime is becoming more refined:—

We have fewer assassins and fewer eminent ruffians, and different classes are acquiring much more of each other's manners. You shall find a taste for amusements among the working classes, and some approximation to democratic feeling in the drawing-room. So you find a highwayman with the manners of first-class hotel society, and with the purse of the country gentleman or merchant; while you find the actual merchant going into bankruptcy, by misfortune or by choice as the case may be; and in the omnibus of the middle classes there is commonly stuck up a notice, politely suggesting that the passengers had better "take care of their pockets." There seems to be no hope that we can overcome by education the instinctive propensity of the five fingers; for many of the distinguished gentlemen in this branch of business are travellers and linguists. Neither would it be satisfactory to rely upon religion as a specific preventive, for among the professors of the art of thieving the clergy are not absent. So completely, indeed, are this once excommunicated class recognised, that they actually hold their public meetings. The next step would be to grant them a distinct representation in Parliament, and to let one of the orators of their public meeting be their honourable member. If that extension of the franchise were granted, we do not know that the elected representative of this particular constituency would be distinguishable from all other members of the House of Commons, or that he would have much reason to be ashamed of his constituency in comparison with others.

The *Examiner*, in writing on the "Secrets of the Campaign" alludes to a subject to which we have not space to advert elsewhere:—

M. de Bazancourt, the inflated French chronicler of the war with Russia, has published in his second volume a letter of the French Emperor's containing a plan of campaign enjoined upon General Canrobert in April, 1855. It advised the division of the allied army, the reserving some thirty thousand men before Sebastopol, the sending as many to watch the Tcherkassy heights, and the dispatching of some forty or fifty thousand round by Alouatta to attack Simpheropol. General Canrobert approved of the plan, and submitted it to Lord Raglan.

At the time the English army was suffering much from illness and recent losses, and Lord Raglan objected strongly to so wide a dissemination of forces. It should be borne in mind, that in order to carry out this Imperial project the French troops had been suddenly recalled from the Kertch expedition, thus rendered nugatory. Lord Raglan, much annoyed at this, had also great distrust of the new plan. But he seems to have consented to it, provided he could avail himself of the French troops to assist in taking charge of the English lines and batteries. His reasoning was that if he had then dispatched twenty thousand, or even ten thousand men on this distant expedition, he ran the risk of having his lines broken; yet to send a less force would be useless. His refusal led to Canrobert's resignation, and Pelissier's assumption of the command.

We have never been great admirers of Lord Raglan or his generalship, but in this we cannot say that he acted without prudence and judgment. Such revelations as these, however, may show us something of the dangers we have escaped. If Pelissier's plan of pushing forward the siege had not succeeded, the English and their generals would have been blamed for marring the bold schemes of the French Emperor. On the other hand, it does not in the least occur to M. de Bazancourt that we may possibly owe the conquest of Sebastopol to the fact of Lord Raglan's having declined the march to Alouatta.

Postscript.

Wednesday, May 21.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords, yesterday, the LORD CHANCELLOR having moved the second reading of the Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Bill, Lord LYNDHURST criticised at much length the provisions of the measure, which he proposed to refer to a select committee. Lord BROUGHAM and Lord REDENDALE opposed the bill, which was defended by the Earl of ABERDEEN. The LORD CHANCELLOR, after a brief reply, consented to adopt the suggestion of Lord Lyndhurst, and the bill was ordered to be referred to the select committee.

Some other bills were passed through committee, and their Lordships adjourned at a quarter to eight o'clock.

In the House of Commons, the Marquis of GRANBY asked whether it was true, as reported, that there existed a secret treaty between France, Austria, and England?

LORD PALMERSTON:

If there were a secret treaty—(laughter)—the noble lord could hardly expect me to make it no secret. (Laughter.) The noble lord's question reminds me of one put by the late member for Montrose, who asked for a return of the expenditure of the secret service money. (Laughter.) I have no hesitation in saying, that the

only treaty concluded is that which has been laid on the table of the House.

THE BALLOT.

Mr H. BERKELEY subsequently moved for leave to bring in a bill "To Protect the Electors of Great Britain and Ireland by taking their Votes by way of Ballot." Commenting upon the reckless manner in which the Government had played with the important subject of his motion, by continually treating the ballot as an open question, the honourable member proceeded to describe and illustrate the prolific series of corruptions and tyrannies which followed from the existing system of open voting; he then briefly noticed some of the chief allegations that had been offered in antagonism to his proposition, denying that the ballot was un-English, that it encouraged or shielded political cowardice, or tended to destroy the honourable status and fair influence of the aristocracy. The House of Commons, he urged, could never be made a practical exponent of the popular mind and the national interests until its members were elected under such a protection from extraneous influences as could only be afforded by the ballot.

The motion was seconded by Sir DE LAZY EVANS. Mr. PRACOCKE having briefly spoken against the bill, urgent calls were made for a division. Mr. H. BERKELEY then offered a few words in reply, and the House divided:

For the motion	111
Against	151
Majority	40

Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE sought leave to introduce a bill to take away from the archbishops, bishops, and other ecclesiastical persons in England and Wales, all power of appointing judges or chancellors, and to vest such powers in the Lord Chancellor. The BISHOP OF CROFT gave a willing consent to the introduction of the bill. Some further discussion ensued, in which Mr. GLADSTONE, LORD PALMERSTON, Mr. MAIZES, Mr. WATSON, and other members, took part. Leave was then given to bring in the bill.

Mr. COWMAN obtained leave to introduce a bill to amend the Public Health Act. The measure, as the honourable member explained, was designed to remove certain ambiguities contained in the existing statute, to enlarge the powers it conferred, and accomplish some further improvements in its working details.

Mr. PELLATT obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the law of imprisonment for debt.

The Dissenters' Marriages Bill passed through committee *pro forma*, and was ordered to be printed with the amendments.

The House adjourned at ten minutes past eight o'clock.

Yesterday, the Queen reviewed several militia regiments on Southsea Common. Some 30,000 persons were present.

Prince Frederick William of Prussia, suitor for the hand of the Princess Royal, arrived at Dover at midnight from Ostend. He proceeds this morning to Osborne.

Last night, a crowded public meeting of the inhabitants of Westminster was held in the Great Hall, Broadway, for the purpose of affording them an opportunity of expressing their opinions and feelings on the subject of the stoppage of the bands from playing in the parks on Sundays. Sir J. V. Shelley, M.P., who was much cheered, took the chair at eight o'clock. It was, he said, the duty of the people to organise to endeavour to prevent Exeter Hall from succeeding. (Hear, hear.) But they must meet quietly and in a legitimate way, as they had met that night, and appoint deputations to wait on the Prime Minister to show him that the people were not indifferent on the question. A resolution in this sense was carried with but feeble opposition.

Sir Henry Barkly is to be the new Governor of Victoria. After having passed seven years in the West Indies, and conducted the government of two important colonies with eminent success at a critical period, he will almost immediately return to England and receive his appointment to the charge of the new and wealthy society which has lately sprung into existence on the shores of Australia.—*Times*.

It is stated that a strong popular desire exists in Clare to return William Smith O'Brien, Esq., as one of the representatives at the next opportunity.

By a treaty concluded between the Sultan and the Western Powers the period within which the evacuation of the Turkish territory was to have been completed has been prolonged. The prolongation is said to be six months from the present time.

Excursion trips to St. Petersburg, 125*s*. per head, are being organised at Paris.

The trial of Palmer is reproduced by the continental journals unabridged.

A letter from Turin states that the trial of the *Espero* for a libel upon the Emperor of Austria, took place on the 17th, and resulted in a condemnation. The penalty inflicted by the Court is not mentioned.

The *Weser Gazette* states that the health of the Pope is such as to cause serious uneasiness, symptoms of dropsy becoming every day more and more evident.

MARK-LANE, THIS DAY.

The show of English wheat in to-day's market was moderate and chiefly composed of Monday's unsold samples. Very few large buyers were in attendance, and the demand for all kinds of wheat and home produce ruled heavy, at Monday's prices. There was very little inquiry for foreign wheat, yet no change took place in the quotations. The supply of barley was moderate, and the trade was heavy, at barely stationary prices. Malt was dull, but not cheaper. There was a fair demand for oats, at very full prices. Beans, peas, and flour realised Monday's currency.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1856.

SUMMARY.

THE May meetings continue, though their frequency has now considerably diminished. The London Missionary society has transformed a debt of 13,000*l.* into a surplus of 2,000*l.*—a fact of great importance during a period of war and straitened resources. The best proof of the great work being done by the society is the interesting report read at the annual meeting, and the statement made by Mr. Rice, a missionary, of what had been accomplished in India. At the meeting of the Congregational Union on Friday, the wholesale charges of heresy were again permitted to have full voice; while the Rev. Newman Hall, who has perhaps done more to win men to Christianity than the members of this new self-constituted Sanhedrim of orthodoxy combined, was scarcely allowed a hearing to protest against "the insinuation thrown out in regard to the unsoundness of Nonconformists with reference to the great principles of the Gospel." Mr. Hall pithily remarked, that religion was *also* in danger when it was sought "to be upheld on the ruins of morality." At a meeting of the Chinese Evangelisation Society, very decided language was used in speaking of the opium traffic with that country, in reference to which we publish a letter elsewhere from an esteemed correspondent. But it is not in foreign countries alone that Christian philanthropy bears fruit. The report of the London City Mission shows that this agency, however imperfect, has produced gratifying results of a social as well as a religious nature, and that nearly a million and a half visits had been made to the poor during the year. The Ragged-school Union can rejoice in the increase of schools, of voluntary teachers, in the marked success of the shoe-black brigade, and in having found situations for not less than two thousand scholars, and established a successful Penny Bank. Lord Shaftesbury, we are glad to see, still adheres to the principle of willingness in supporting these valuable agencies, while the fact stated in our news columns, that in one place parents are forcing their children to commit crime in order to get them admitted into the reformatories, is a striking proof that something more is necessary than simply to provide a refuge for the destitute and outcast.

Sunday last was a very quiet day in the parks, more, perhaps, by reason of the showery weather than the indisposition of the public to assemble in large numbers. There is hope that the contest which has evidently set in on the Sunday Band question, will be decided in a more favourable arena. The promoters of this mode of recreation are organising their strength with the view of petitioning Parliament and memorialising the Premier. Lord Palmerston, by his tone in the House of Commons, plainly encourages the outward pressure, while Sir Benjamin Hall, though a member of the Cabinet, lends himself to the out-door movement, and becomes an agitator in a matter in which the head of the Government has decided adversely to his own views! There have been public meetings in Marylebone and Westminster, at which resolutions were adopted, expressing regret and indignation at the withdrawal of the bands, and determining upon ulterior measures. The production of the correspondence between the Archbishop of Canterbury and Lord Palmerston will give a formal opportunity for the expression of the opinion of the House

of Commons on the subject. Meanwhile, it is gratifying to find that the Early Closing Association are doing their utmost to realise the inestimable advantages of a general half-holiday on Saturday, not by an appeal to the Legislature, but by the force of public opinion.

The re-assembled Lords being still unsupplied, by the Lower House, with materials of legislation, simply resumed, on Monday, their desultory but useful conversations. The Foreign Minister was called upon for explanations of our alleged interference in aid of the Costa Ricans against the Nicaraguan Americans, and of the reported Circassian appeal against the Treaty of Paris. The Earl of Albemarle moved for the re-appointment of the select committee on Indian territories—but as his own friends thought the proposed subject of inquiry either premature or indefinite, Ministers had no difficulty in negating the motion. Last night, Lord Chancellor Cranworth obtained a second reading for his Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Bill—the long-expected measure of relief for which clever women have written, and suffering women sighed; and which, now that it has come, proves almost worse than none. In all essential matters it leaves the law just as it is—with all its shameful anomalies and intolerable cruelties. Neither the property, person, nor reputation of the wife would receive the least additional protection under the improved system of administration which it proposes. These fatal defects were dwelt upon by Lords Lyndhurst and Brougham with hopeful emphasis; and their amendment, for referring the bill to a select committee, was virtually adopted.

The hereditary chiefs of aristocratic party in the Commons—Russell and Stanley—have addressed themselves to provincial auditories; Lord John with only an indirect political meaning, indicated by the locality of his appearance—Lord Stanley, in a direct political manner, and with the effectiveness of a party manifesto. It is remarkably indicative of the ever-prevalent confusion of names with things, that a Tory member of the Carlton has at last addressed himself in earnest to the purgation of that notorious fraternity from the Peelites, by a resolution excluding all who have taken office under Lord Palmerston; a description which just includes Gladstone, Graham, and Sidney Herbert—while Lord Derby's Radical son enjoys the present and prospective advantages of the Conservative fellowship.

The East India House, in a questionable exercise of its legal prerogatives, and an offensive anticipation of public judgment, has voted a pension of five thousand per annum to Lord Dalhousie; who has returned from his eight years' sovereignty of an empire which has never failed permanently to enrich its rulers. No one can withhold admiration of his administrative abilities, or sympathy with his physical debility—nor would we hastily assert that he has no extraordinary claim on the coffers of Leadenhall-street. But there would have been nothing ungrateful to Lord Dalhousie in postponing the discussion of that claim until he had vindicated himself from the charges of injustice to native princes, and neglect of financial law.—Our foreign appointments are too evidently not estimated by their opportunity for noble service. Lord Granville is the envied bearer of Queen Victoria's congratulations to the Emperor Alexander on his accession to the throne of Russia; but only Sir H. Barkley can be induced to accept the governorship of Victoria—a pleasant promotion from that of Guiana, but quite unacceptable to young noblemen at home.

The space occupied, in every daily and weekly journal, by the report of Palmer's trial, compels an allusion to that proceeding; but shall not tempt us into even an involuntary expression of opinion thereon.—The two men convicted of the murder of Miss Hinds have suffered death at Cavan.—Six or seven workmen have unhappily been killed, and others injured, by an explosion at the Government works in Woolwich.

The news from the Continent chiefly concerns the tortuous workings of diplomacy, and the interchange of visits between distinguished personages. The Archduke Maximilian of Austria, and Prince Oscar of Sweden, have arrived at the Tuileries. These and other circumstances show the extraordinary position of the *parvenu* Emperor, courted all round by the European Powers. Austria is unceasing in her efforts to prepare for eventualities in Italy. The French press does not at all respond to the enthusiasm of English journalism on that question. It is hence inferred that Louis Napoleon has resolved on abstaining from all interference and upholding the *status quo*. But not satisfied with this understood policy, the Court of Vienna has been striving to obtain the guarantee of the whole German Confederation for its Italian possessions. Austria will lose nothing for want of asking. The French Emperor has made a further step towards free-trade by abrogating all prohibitive duties. The Sultan has issued a manifesto on the

conclusion of "a satisfactory peace," and made a treaty with his late Allies; by which the Western Powers undertake to evacuate Turkish territory within six months. Our very peremptory tone with respect to Persia has led that State to cultivate closer relations with Russia, and to conclude a singular treaty of commerce with the United States.

NOTES FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WHITSUNTIDE is gone, and we have entered upon our final stage of sessional work—usually the longest, and by far the heaviest. Morning sittings, and late nights, are what we have now to expect—long hours spent in Committee, and wearisome discussion on dry matters of detail. Summer is approaching. Alas! that it should be all but over before we can be dismissed to enjoy it! But such is the penalty imposed on men who are deemed fortunate enough to represent a constituency in Parliament.

On Monday evening, the House of Commons received from the Chancellor of the Exchequer the annual financial statement called "The Budget." The subject is never a very attractive one, even when there is a surplus to dispose of, and it requires a special order of genius to marshal the figures which must make their appearance into an array calculated to excite immediate interest. But when, as on Monday, the statement refers to a war expenditure and a large deficit—when it is well known that taxation is to remain another year *in statu quo*—and when the speaker is Sir George Cornewall Lewis—he must be a remarkably hopeful man who enters the House with the remotest expectation of being entertained. Our present Chancellor of the Exchequer, like the poor boy's magpie, may "think profoundly," but he is altogether unable to put his thoughts into speech. Every subject in his hands becomes heavy. Not a gleam of sentiment, not a sparkle of wit, not a glimmer of enthusiasm, not a burst of energy, ever relieves his ponderous effusions. What, therefore, a budget must be under his auspices may be readily conceived. He moves on like a broad-wheeled coal-waggon, slowly and with labour. His voice is low, and its tones inflexible. He has no action, unless occasionally leaning his elbow on the box before him can be described as such. No change ever passes over his countenance, nor does fire ever flash from his eye. Is it surprising, under these circumstances, that he neither drew a full House, nor kept together those members who had come to hear him? Let him, however, have his meed of praise. He made our financial position clear and intelligible, and he did not aspire to deliver a five hours' speech. Now and then, he elicited a faint "hear, hear," and when he had concluded he was repaid with a sort of cheer—but whether that cheer was an expression of satisfaction with what he had done, or merely because he had done, it would be difficult to determine.

The substantial features of the Budget may be given in few words. The total cost of the two years' war with Russia, was calculated to amount to 77,600,000*l.*, of which about 42,000,000*l.* has been furnished by loan, and the remainder by increased taxation. This year, the estimated expenditure, diminished since the conclusion of peace, by 17,559,500*l.*, would be 75,525,000*l.*, to which a margin of 2,000,000*l.* was proposed to be added by way of precaution. To meet this, the taxes would be continued precisely as the law provided. The double Income-tax, the increased tea, coffee, sugar, and spirit duties, would be levied until next April. But the Malt-tax, which was raised to 4*s.* a bushel for the purposes of the war, would return to 2*s.* 8*d.* on the 5th of July next. In all other respects, the sources of income would remain untouched. These sources, the Chancellor of the Exchequer expected to produce a nett total of 67,152,000*l.* This would leave a deficiency, including the margin, of 10,373,000*l.* But towards making good such deficiency there were 1,500,000*l.* yet unpaid of the previous loan, and he proposed another loan of 5,000,000*l.* Three per Cent. Consols, and, at a later period of the session, he would ask power to borrow some 4,000,000*l.* in Exchequer Bonds. And so, by taxes and loans, sufficient for the year will be the ways and means thereof.

The Budget itself excited but little remark—but the observations of the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the improbability of proceeding further in a revision of our taxational system, provoked some very useful criticism. We were delighted to find both Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Gladstone discourage the notion that we are bound to preserve an extended peace establishment, and draw a clear distinction between effective and expensive national defences. They both rely more upon an alteration of system, than upon large and burdensome armaments, as the proper preparation for future exigencies—and attribute recent disasters rather to official mismanagement than to Parliamentary parsimony. The cheers which greeted these remarks lead us to hope that the House of Commons will not be seduced into an extravagant

military expenditure, wholly out of keeping with the circumstances of the country.

The Budget having been disposed of, the House went into Committee on the Fire Insurance Bill. It is the object of this measure to protect British Insurance Offices from the competition of French companies, which avoid payment of duty, and thus, at one and the same time, diminish the revenue, and abstract business from our own companies. The true way of securing the result aimed at would have been to lower the duty on fire policies from 3s. to 1s. per cent., which would have deprived insurers of all inducement to seek their object abroad. But Sir G. C. Lewis cannot share the proceeds of this tax on prudence—and hence he proposes to make the agents of foreign companies take out a licence, if he can, and to fine heavily all insurers in such companies who pay no duty, if he can catch them. Everybody was convinced that the measure would be inoperative—but while dissatisfaction with the bill was all but universal, the majorities which carried its most obnoxious clauses were overwhelming—the men who most loudly condemned them, except Lord Stanley, voting steadily for them. A nugatory measure, and a sham opposition to it rather aptly typify the present state of the House.

Last night we had the ballot—debate we were going to say—but we must correct the expression—for debate there was none. Plenty of members attended to form a House—plenty remained to keep a House—plenty to go to a division—but discussion was shunned as a pestilence. Mr. Berkeley took up his usual speaking station—directly in front of the Treasury Bench—about a quarter to five, and opened his fire. A series of sharp, humorous, clever hits at the old objections, followed by a good deal of information on the working of the ballot in America, read from printed extracts, and wound up by some lively comment on recent hustings' speeches, occupied him, and amused the House for somewhat upwards of an hour. To this speech Mr. Peacock offered a much briefer reply. The House was resolved on forcing a division before dinner, and succeeded. No one rose to face the clamour—no Minister ventured to speak against the question. By twenty minutes after six, the whole affair was over, the numbers announced being—Ayes, 111; Noes, 151; majority against, 40. No one can fail of regarding the result as unfavourable. No doubt many honourable members had paired off until a later hour, or had left the House expecting to return in time for the division. But be this as it may, it is impossible to look upon the issue in any other light than one indicative of great apathy on the question.

Sir Joshua Walmsley, who was down for the same evening to move for an amended representation of the people, had previously tried his chance at the ballot, and postponed his motion till that day month, when he will be first on the list. The House, therefore, went into a brief discussion on a motion of Mr. J. C. Phillimore, for giving the appointment of judges in Ecclesiastical Courts to the Lord Chancellor in place of the Archbishop of Canterbury and other ecclesiastical authorities. Some very instructive talk, introduced by Mr. Gladstone, on the unsatisfactory way in which Parliament has treated the subject of reform in these courts for many years past, was indulged in—to what ultimate advantage, time alone will show. The Ministry assented to the introduction of the bill—and as there was evidently to be no division, the thinned benches became yet thinner. We ourselves were under the necessity of leaving at an early hour, and, to all appearance, there would be a "count out" in about half an hour. Our Postscript will inform our readers whether the likelihood was succeeded by fact. If so, we shall regret our inability to remain.

CONSERVATIVE REFORM.

LORD STANLEY has propounded at King's Lynn—not as a paradox, but as a practical truth—the doctrine that no man can be a true Reformer who is not in some sense a Conservative; and no man a true Conservative who is not in some sense a Reformer. The declaration has not the merit of absolute novelty, though it is so rarely uttered in its perfect, twofold form as to have all the charm of originality. Its value consists in the speaker's application of it to questions of present interest.

The first of these is the war, and the European relations which survive or issue from it. In the unexampled brevity of the struggle, Lord Stanley recognises an indication that peace is becoming the natural condition of modern society; and he would secure the enjoyment of this natural condition by consistent international action. The principle of non-intervention, he says, must govern our foreign policy, and be allowed to affect our domestic expenditure. He would not abstain from remonstrance with such Governments as that of Naples, on behalf of its oppressed subjects,—nor hesitate to

succour an ally,—but neither would he encourage, by our own example, the maintenance of those armed multitudes in which despotic and aggressive Powers have their strength. He would trust alike for the preservation of peace and the promotion of freedom, to the exercise of moral influence, and to the operation of interested motives. The terms of a treaty, he well remarks, are far less important than the spirit in which it is negotiated; and to be lasting, there must be a mutual interest in its observance. Nevertheless, he is no advocate of absolute disarmament. He would remove from Europe at large the reproach, and burden, and danger, of "keeping two million men in idleness and arms;" but until all cause and apprehension of war is at an end, this country should keep her military and naval establishments in perfect efficiency. That economy and efficiency are not only compatible with each other, but mutually necessary, is the prominent peculiarity of his argument. For reasons of soldiery, as well as of constitutional statesmanship, he would maintain the militia, and allow the principal colonies to provide for their own defence. Some ten thousand men, accustomed to live in tents, perfectly trained, officered by promotion instead of purchase, and subject to an authority directly responsible to the Commons,—with a reserve of local corps, under periodical training,—is his proposed substitute for the large army now afoot, and which Ministers warn us against reducing. In the civil service, he would have the method of appointment that of competition and examination. The first opportunity of financial relief should be used to repeal the fire insurance and paper duties—which he condemns as taxes on morality and knowledge. In the matter of law reform, he would abolish the ecclesiastical courts, cheapen divorces, facilitate the transfer of land, consolidate the statutes, provide for the better preparation of bills, and appoint a Minister of Justice. On ecclesiastical questions, he would assert the broad Protestant doctrine of private judgment. And he would deal with parliamentary reform, when the public desired it to be dealt with at all, in a bold and effectual manner.

It is not a little remarkable that the son of Lord Derby, and the associate of Mr. Disraeli, should have put forth this comprehensive programme of Conservative reform, at a moment when all parties, and all other political personages, are utterly dumb. No one is surprised to hear Lord Stanley advancing every one of the doctrines of advanced Liberalism;—it is accepted as only an additional proof of his lordship's distinct individuality. But that is a very defective view of the case. Its real significance lies in the fact, that Lord Stanley is as much the prospective, as his father is the present, leader of a great party. He speaks for almost the entire of the new generation of Conservatives, and for many of the old. Except on ecclesiastical questions, he is not at open variance even with the stubbornest remnant of Toryism. Mr. Disraeli has cheated the country party into believing that they have a traditional enmity to standing armies and foreign alliances. As long as they are out of office, they have very little interest in resisting administrative reform. And it consorts well with the pride of the squirearchy to profess that they have nothing to fear from a really popular franchise. There are therefore no political differences to debar Lord Stanley from a Derby Cabinet—should we ever see another; and if we do not, it will be because a new coalition of Whigs and Peelites adopt his schemes—possibly invite his company. Democratic opinions are never so acceptable, even to the democracy, as when preached by a noble. Truth, when uttered from the high places of society, is like a stream whose fountain is in the hills;—it cannot be covered up. So long as plebeian traders and journalists were the only champions of radical amendments, social or political, the cause of progress had only the reason and virtue of mankind for its aid. Now that a political and social magnate takes up their testimony, it is apprehended by the simple and believed by the incredulous.

CENTRAL AMERICAN CAMPAIGN.

Nicaragua has become in a double sense the debatable land. The right of property or protectorate therein is being fought out in the fiercest form of warfare, by combatants of Lilliputian proportions, while the greater claimants rest from their diplomatic strife. The latter has at least performed the useful service of familiarising European readers with the names and positions of the former. General Walker is pretty well understood to be an adventurer from the United States—one of the hybrid off-spring of New Orleans and Kentucky; city licentiousness and backwood daring; the Mexican war and land lottery offices—to have associated with himself a few hundreds like minded—to have wrested the government of Nicaragua from the native functionaries, by violence suborned with promises of land—and proceeded to invade a neighbouring State. The "allies" by whom the

Nicaraguan frontier is now threatened, are equally well understood to be the petty States of Costa Rica, Honduras, San Salvador, and Guatemala. And that is a sufficiently large understanding of the case, for the degree of interest as yet evolved.

The correspondence of the New York and New Orleans papers differ materially in their account of Walker's prospects. There is no doubt, however, that so lately as the 11th of April, he was sore beset. On the 26th of March, a body of his followers, under a Colonel Schlessinger, were repulsed by the Costa Ricans, at Santa Rosa, with such fierce determination that 127 fell in a few minutes, and were left for dead on the field. The conquerors, after shooting their prisoners, and even the peaceful inhabitants of the towns abandoned by the Americans in their retreat, marched upon Walker's head-quarters at the little city of Rivas, whither the General himself hastened with 600 men. The struggle was maintained with an obstinacy proportioned to the dignity of the position. Twelve hours' fighting, on the 11th ultimo, left the Costa Ricans in possession of Rivas, and of 150 killed and wounded Americans. More prisoners were shot, and Walker retreated to Granada, where some accounts leave him, sick and almost deserted. According to his own paper, he routed the Costa Ricans at Rivas, increased his six hundred men to twenty-five hundred, and detached the allies from Costa Rica. A correspondent of the *New Orleans Delta*, who had lost an arm at Santa Rosa, and escaped being shot only by asserting his neutral character, urges the editor not to trust these representations, and especially to warn the adventurous against believing they will get 250 acres of land a-piece from the filibustering general. Nevertheless, it would be premature to reckon on Walker's definitive overthrow. The confused condition of Central America, the tenacity of the filibustering spirit, and the undoubted superiority, in physical and intellectual qualities, of the invaders, make their ultimate success only too probable.

The worst result of such success would be, its influence in the United States. The Southern representatives show so great an interest in Walker, and their demands for his recognition are already so clamorous, that there can be no doubt his acknowledgment by the Federal Government would be a pro-slavery triumph; a premium on filibustering and man-selling. Hitherto, however, President Pierce's Cabinet have steadily repudiated Walker's pretensions to their countenance; and even the publication of the injudicious letter in which the Costa Ricans were offered British muskets at a low price, has failed to create a new Central American question.

AN IMPORTANT OMISSION SUPPLIED.

In replying, on Monday night, to some very useful, if irrelevant, remarks on our new relations to Italy and Austria, Lord Palmerston vindicated our dealings with the former in 1848-9; which, Mr. Disraeli truly said, the adherents of despotism and republicanism agreed in condemning and lamenting. The noble viscount declared, with his characteristic amplitude of self-confidence, that whoever impugned the good faith of our transactions with Sicily in those years, must do so either in gross ignorance or utter untruthfulness; and he gave the following version of those transactions:—

Lord Minto went to Italy for the avowed purpose of tendering advice to those Governments who might be willing to receive it, as to the improvement of their administration. Well, there was an insurrection in Sicily. We endeavoured to mediate between the Sicilians and the King of Naples, with the consent of the King of Naples, and at the request of the King of Naples. Well, we had nearly brought that mediation to a point. The question was not, what institutions they should have; because he was willing to give them institutions very nearly similar to those which, at a former period, they had possessed. The question was, whether the Crown of Naples was to be united with that of Sicily, on his head. Well, that would have been concluded too; and everything would have been effected in a manner satisfactory to the Sicilians, and consistent with unity of that double empire. But then came the news of the French Revolution, and that kindled a flame among the Sicilians, and they refused to have the King of Naples for their sovereign; and it was subsequent to that refusal, that Lord Minto, acting on his instructions, said he could no longer carry on communications with those who had refused to be any longer subject to the King of Naples, after offers had been made to them, which ought to have satisfied them as to the institutions under which they were to live. There was no abandonment of any parties we were bound to support; we were willing to give them, and did give them, our good offices to the King of Naples, up to that point; but when, encouraged and excited by the events in France, they declared they could no longer continue on any terms to have the crown of Sicily united with that of the King of Naples, we said, that good faith to that sovereign, with whom we were in alliance, and with whose consent our agent had entered into that mediation, prevented us from carrying it on any further, and Lord Minto retired, and there was an end of our part in the matter.

Without at all accepting Lord Palmerston's estimate of what the King of Naples was prepared,—“through our mediation,” (query, the compulsion of a popular revolt?)—to concede, we must make one important correction. Lord

Minto did acknowledge the Duke of Genoa as King of Sicily; and Lord Palmerston did continue to interfere between Naples and Sicily for more than twelve months after that event. Is there no alternative between "gross ignorance" and "utter untruthfulness," of which his lordship might like to avail himself?

Parliamentary Proceedings.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS. PETITIONS PRESENTED.

Agricultural Statistics Bill, against, 3.
Ballot, in favour of, 1.
Billeting System, for abolition, 1.
Church-rates, against abolition without equivalent, 10.
Abolition Bill, in favour of, 2.
against, 2.
Coalwhippers Bill, against, 2.
Decimal Coinage, in favour of, 1.
Education (Scotland) Bill, in favour of, 1.
against, 2.
Fire Insurance, for reduction of duty, 6.
London Corporation Bill, against, 1.
Lord's-day, against performance of military bands, 12.
against opening of public exhibitions, 1.
Masters and Servants, for amendment of law, 1.
Maynooth College Act, for repeal, 12.
Ministers' Money (Ireland), for abolition, 1.
Nuisances Removal, &c. (Scotland) Bill, against, 14.
Parochial Schools (Scotland) Bill, for alteration, 1.
against, 1.
in favour of, 4.
Poor-law Amendment Bill, in favour of, 1.
for alteration, 1.
Public-houses (Scotland) Act, for repeal, 1.
for extension to Ireland, 1.
Religious Endowments (Ireland), against, 1.
Scotch and Irish Paupers Removal Bill, against, 31.
Tithe Rent Charge, for amendment of law, 1.
Unlicensed Brokers (Scotland), for better regulation, 7.
Vaccination Bill, against, 28.
for alteration, 4.

BILL READ A FIRST TIME.

Joint-Stock Companies Winding-up Acts Amendment Bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

Transfer of Works (Ireland) Bill.
Court of Exchequer (Scotland) Bill.
Procedure and Evidence Bill.
Judicial Procedure, &c. (Scotland) Bill.
Registration of Voters (Scotland) Bill.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Fire Insurances Bill.
Industrial and Provident Societies Bill.
Juvenile Offenders (Ireland) Bill.

BILL READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

Juvenile Convict Prison (Ireland) Bill.

DEBATES.

CENTRAL AMERICA.

In the House of Lords on Monday, the Earl of ELGIN read the letter recently published in the newspapers purporting to be an answer from the Foreign-office to a request from the agent of the Government of Costa Rica for a supply of arms; he asked the Earl of Clarendon if that letter was genuine; and, if so, whether he had any objection to lay on the table a copy of the application to which the letter appeared to be the answer?

The Earl of CLARENDON stated that the letter, as published, was perfectly genuine. Some time after the attack of Walker on Nicaragua the agents for the Government of Costa Rica, and other Governments in Central America, applied to the English Government for assistance. Several plans by which that assistance could be given were proposed, and it was suggested that England should take the protectorate of those countries. That offer was declined; the English Government was determined to have nothing to do with the affairs of Central America, though it regretted the attack that had been made on Nicaragua, by which the property of English subjects had been sacrificed. All the Government had done was to send to the coast a naval force, just sufficient to afford due protection to British subjects and their property. The agent for Costa Rica then stated that the Government of that State intended to resist the aggression of Walker, but that it had no arms; the agent, having no credit in this country, could not himself purchase them; he therefore asked whether the War Department could not furnish him with a supply. The answer of the War Department was contained in the letter the Earl of Elgin had read; that offer was not accepted; so, even indirectly, there had been no interference with the affair of Costa Rica. Since Walker took possession of Nicaragua, he had seized a good deal of British property by the form of forced loans; there had been some communication on the subject with the United States Government, and from a despatch from Mr. Crampton, dated the 15th March, it appeared that that Government regretted the state of things in Nicaragua, and was as anxious as the British Government to see Walker rooted out; and the Earl of Clarendon thought there could be no better mode of effecting this than that the American and British Governments should combine for the purpose.

CIRCASSIA.

The Earl of MALMESBURY asked if it was true the Circassians had made a representation to the Porte, in which they called on the Allies to protect their independence, and whether the Earl of Clarendon could lay the document on the table?

The Earl of CLARENDON said it was true that a deputation had come from Circassia to the Porte; but he had not received from the British Ambassador any document except the letter from the Circassian chiefs to the Queen. Nothing had been addressed to the British Government. What the Circassians desired was that their independence should be secured, and that application they made in consequence of having heard that peace was signed; and he had to observe that the person who was at

the head of the deputation and was their spokesman was not a Circassian, and had during the two years of war been anything but friendly to the Allies. That individual was the person who mainly prevented the fortifications of Anapa being destroyed, and was one of the greatest agents of Russian power. Therefore he did not think that these persons had any claim upon the Allies. With respect to the Sardinian note, there would be no objection to laying a copy on the table.

INDIA.

The Earl of ALBEMARLE moved the reappointment of the select committee on the Government of our Indian Territories. The former committee, the labours of which were interrupted in 1853, had not directed its inquiries to the internal administration of India; he stated the chief points in which that administration is defective and requires investigation—the finances, the public works, the paucity of judicial officers, and the practice of torture. He hoped the committee would be reappointed, and that it would commence where the committee of 1853 terminated.

Earl GRANVILLE thought the necessity for reappointing the committee had not been proved; the government of India must be carried on in India itself. He hoped the motion would not be pressed.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH agreed with Earl Granville that it would not be advisable to reappoint the committee if its object was to promote organic changes, for which the time had not arrived. But, in refusing to reappoint it, it should be understood that the House did not declare against all inquiry into the internal administration of the Indian Government. There was much in the finances alone that justified some inquiry.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE concurred with the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH as to the necessity of improving the management of the finances of India.

The motion was negatived without a division.

THE BANDS IN THE PARKS.

Mr. OTWAY asked if it was a fact that the performance of the military bands in the parks had been prohibited by order of the Government, and, if so, at whose solicitation; and also, if that prohibition extended to any other town than the metropolis?

Sir B. HALL received a few days ago instructions from his noble friend at the head of the Government to discontinue the performances of the band in the park on a Sunday, and that was all he knew about the proceeding.

Mr. OTWAY asked the noble lord at the head of the Government at whose solicitation the prohibition was issued, and also whether it extended to any town besides London.

LORD PALMERSTON:—

I have only to say that I received last week a letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury, stating upon his own part, and upon the part of his episcopal brethren, reasons why he conceived that, in deference to the religious feelings of a large part of the community, it would be desirable that the bands playing on a Sunday evening should cease. To that letter I replied that I had originally concurred in the arrangement that bands should play in Kensington-gardens and Hyde-park on a Sunday; that my opinion had been and still was—for I had heard nothing to alter my views—(hear, hear)—that such an arrangement would afford an innocent recreation—(hear, hear)—combined with fresh air and healthy exercise to the inhabitants of the metropolis; but I said that, considering the feeling which had been expressed by himself as the head of the Church, and having also had representations made to me that that feeling was shared by various other persons, I had to ask myself whether the advantage which would arise from the continuance of those bands on a Sunday would compensate for the evil which might arise from running counter to the religious feelings of a large portion of the community, and to that question I was compelled to reply that it would not. I therefore took immediate steps to discontinue the playing of those bands in the parks on a Sunday, but that prohibition does not apply to other towns.

Mr. OTWAY then gave notice that on going into Committee of Supply he would move for the correspondence which had taken place between the noble lord and the Archbishop of Canterbury on the subject.

Mr. ROEBUCK inquired as to the truth of the report that the determination of the noble lord at the head of the Government to discontinue the bands in the parks was arrived at in consequence of a deputation of Scotch members having waited upon him on the subject.

LORD PALMERSTON was glad to have an opportunity of stating that there was no foundation for such a report. No deputation of Scotch members waited upon him on the subject.

In reply to Major Reed, the noble lord said the prohibition applied solely to the metropolitan parks and Kensington-gardens.

THE BUDGET.

The House having resolved itself into a Committee of Ways and Means,

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER made his financial statement. He reminded the committee that in a statement made in February he had said that there was a difference between his estimates of the revenue and expenditure last year and their actual amount; it was not necessary, therefore, to repeat that statement, and he should content himself, he said, with stating that the receipts were somewhat less, and the expenditure was somewhat greater, than he had anticipated, and that the result was a deficiency of 3,560,000*l.* To cover that deficiency he had submitted a resolution for a loan of 5,000,000*l.* in Consols, and also a proposition for funding 3,000,000*l.* of Exchequer-bills, which had taken effect, and had been successful for its object. Since then the balance-sheet for the financial year 1855-56 had been laid before Parliament, and the House had seen the result, which he thought it unneces-

sary to repeat. The expenditure in the past year 1855-56, had been 88,428,000*l.*, the revenue 65,705,000*l.*, showing an excess of expenditure over revenue of 22,723,000*l.*, or, with the addition of certain other items, the Sardinian loan and the redemption of hereditary pensions, a total excess of 23,936,000*l.* To cover this excess there had been raised by loan, Exchequer-bonds and bills, 26,478,000*l.*, exceeding the deficiency by 2,542,000*l.*, and it was his duty to account for this sum, and to show how the Exchequer had been benefited thereby. The balances in the Exchequer on the 31st March, 1856, exceeded their amount on the 31st March, 1855, by 2,651,000*l.*, showing a balance in favour of the Exchequer of more than 100,000*l.* The expenditure of the year which had elapsed had been mainly characterised by its connexion with the war, the civil expenditure having been but slightly augmented. The total expenditure in the two years of war, 1854-55 and 1855-56, was 155,120,000*l.*; the total amount in two years of peace, 1852-53 and 1853-54, had been 102,032,000*l.*, being a difference of 53,088,000*l.* The revenue in the two years of war was 125,900,000*l.*, and in the two years of peace 108,018,000*l.*, an increase of revenue from taxation in the two years of war of 17,182,000*l.* The amount raised by an addition to the funded and unfunded debt was 33,604,000*l.*: so that the total receipts in the two years amounted to 50,786,000*l.*, as compared with two years of peace. Adding the surplus income in two years of peace, the amount applicable to war expenditure over and above the sum applied to peace expenditure was 56,772,000*l.*, and adding for the war expenditure of 1856-7 24,500,000*l.*, the total excess was 77,588,000*l.* Having stated these particulars, he observed that, although peace had been concluded, yet, for practical purposes, the present year must be considered as a year of war. Preparations had been making for operations by sea and land during the winter and the early part of this year; large contracts had been entered into, which were payable this year, as well as the cost of the re-transport of the Sardinian troops from the Crimea. Nevertheless, he rejoiced to say that the Government had been able to make considerable reductions in the estimates for the army and navy, the original estimates having amounted to 54,874,000*l.*, and the revised estimates being 37,315,000*l.*—a difference of 17,559,000*l.* Besides the expenditure immediately connected with the war, there was a charge arising from the convention with Sardinia; and he stated the circumstances under which he proposed to the House to authorise the Government to advance a second million for paying the expenses of the Sardinian army. The estimated total expenditure for the current year 1856-7, including the loan to Sardinia, was 75,525,000*l.*, which would cover the entire estimated services for the year; but, as it was difficult to make accurate estimates as to various items of expenditure, he proposed, by way of prudent precaution, to take, as a margin, a vote of credit for 2,000,000*l.*, which would make a total of 77,525,000*l.* After entering into detailed explanations respecting the income-tax and the Customs duties upon tea, sugar, coffee, spirits, and malt, he stated the total net amount of the revenue, as estimated, at 67,152,000*l.*; deducting this sum from the amount of estimated expenditure, there appeared an estimated deficiency of 10,373,000*l.*, which the remainder of the produce of the loan of last year, 1,500,000*l.*, would reduce to 8,873,000*l.* Looking to the condition of the country and to the difficulty, or improbability, of immediately realising this amount by additional taxation, the Government did not feel justified, he said, in proposing any additional taxes, nor did they recommend any reduction. They proposed to make no change in the existing basis of the taxation, but to resort to borrowing, and they had, in the first instance, invited tenders for a loan of 5,000,000*l.*, and their terms, which had been accepted by the contractors, he should submit in the form of a resolution to the Committee. He had the authority of Baron Rothschild for stating that the deposits already amounted to 4,000,000*l.* in the Bank of England notes and gold, which, at the rate of 10 per cent., represented a capital, ready to be advanced, of 40,000,000*l.* He trusted that the committee would be of opinion that this loan had been effected upon terms fair to both the parties and the Government. The loan would not, however, cover the entire estimated deficiency by 1,873,000*l.*, to provide for which he proposed, at a later period of the session, to ask for power to borrow, in Exchequer-bonds, if it should be advisable, to the extent of 2,000,000*l.* The present state of the Exchequer-bill market did not render it advisable to increase the amount of the unfunded debt. At the same time, he believed the fall in the value of those securities had been occasioned by temporary circumstances. The quantity of outstanding Exchequer-bills in the market amounted to 20,124,000*l.*, of which sum the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt held 5,000,000*l.*; so that the amount really in the market was no more than 15,124,000*l.* Comparing the amount of the debt at the end of the last war and at the present time, he showed that the funded debt had decreased 49,000,000*l.*, and the unfunded 17,000,000*l.*, the total diminution being 66,000,000*l.*, while the charge for the debt had diminished 4,500,000*l.* Having read a statement of accruing liabilities on the one hand, and on the other an account of the annuities and pensions that would cease or fall in in the course of a few years, he justified the borrowing in consols instead of terminable annuities, maintaining that perpetual annuities were a form of borrowing most convenient for both borrower and lender. An impression existed, he observed, in some quarters, that the moment of a transition from war to peace was a favourable one for revising our system of taxation. Our Customs' tariff had, however, been revised by Sir R. Peel, and the only duties of a protective kind which now existed were those on

foreign spirits and on malt. The stamp-duties and assessed-taxes had been revised, and the whole revenue of the Excise had been constantly under the consideration of the House. The expenditure of this country, within the control of Parliament (including the public debt), calculated per head, was not, as he showed, unreasonable, compared with that of other countries. He moved, in conclusion, a series of resolutions sanctioning and giving effect to the loan.

After some remarks by Mr. ALCOCK and Mr. HADFIELD on the subject of fire-insurances; from Mr. W. WILLIAMS respecting the stock in which the loan was contracted; from Mr. E. BALL, on the malt-tax; from Mr. VANCE, on the duty upon Irish spirits; and from Mr. M. GIBSON, in favour of a repeal of the duty upon paper,

Mr. DISRAELI, after expressing his gratification at receiving an assurance from the highest authority that the resources of the country were unimpaired, said he hoped, when the excitement of the war had passed away, that the House would give its attention to a most rigid system of economy, and not allow itself to suppose that it could guard against a repetition of the circumstances which had occurred at the beginning of the war by maintaining a much larger military establishment. He then adverted to the relations between this country and Sardinia, observing that, judging from the protocols of the negotiations laid before the House, he should suppose that there had been an understanding between the Sardinian Ministry and the British Government respecting the liberation of Italy; but how, he asked, was he to reconcile such language and diplomatic documents with a tripartite treaty between England, France, and Austria, consolidating and sealing a policy opposed to that which Sardinia had adopted and Great Britain encouraged?

Lord PALMERSTON said the surmises of Mr. Disraeli were entirely destitute of foundation. There was no mystery in our relations with Sardinia; they were known to everybody, and appeared upon the face of the protocols and the treaty; they were the relations of perfect confidence and friendship, and of intimate alliance; but as to any secret project of revolutionising Italy, there was not the slightest ground from which any man could imply such an imputation. The treaty with Austria was for one purpose and for one only—namely, that there should be a mutual engagement between England, France, and Austria, to provide for the due execution of the treaty for securing the independence of the Turkish empire, but not binding England and France to guarantee the possessions of Austria.

Sir F. BARING, recalling the discussion to the subject of finance, said he thought the Chancellor of the Exchequer had taken the wisest course in the present state of things, but hoped that next year there would be a reduction of the estimates, for which otherwise the country would loudly call.

Mr. GLADSTONE thought that Mr. Disraeli was justified in referring to Sardinia, which he did not believe to be intent upon schemes of aggression. Her function, he observed, was to exhibit a bright example to Italy, and, as a consequence of that example, she was most certain to find her reward. With regard to the principle upon which our military expenditure ought to be regulated, there was, he said, a vague opinion in the country that the House of Commons was the cause of the evils which had happened at the commencement of the war; but he denied that any connexion could be traced between the alleged cause and effect. He commended the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who he thought, had sailed very near the wind in his estimates, for not proposing to remit taxes, and trusted he would hold firm and decided language as to the intention of the Government to maintain the existing taxation until they were in a condition to propose the remaining reforms necessary to bring our taxation into a satisfactory state.

After some further discussion, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER made a short reply to objections, in the course of which he stated that the 5,000,000l. Exchequer-bills held by the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt represented savings-banks' money.

The resolutions were then agreed to.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The LORD CHANCELLOR, in reply to a question from the Earl of Donoughmore, stated that there was no intention on the part of the Government to abolish the Irish ecclesiastical courts, but it was proposed to establish in Ireland a court having the power to try suits and pronounce sentence in cases of divorce.

Earl STANHOPE gave notice that he should on Friday next move for a committee of inquiry into the effects of the substitution of penal servitude for transportation as a secondary punishment.

The Marriage Law Amendment Bill on Monday went through committee, Lord BROUGHAM having withdrawn the two clauses most objected to, those relating to legitimacy and divorce.

Lord COLCHESTER gave notice that on Thursday next he would call attention to the change in the maritime law, with reference to the right of search, effected by the Plenipotentiaries at the late Conferences in Paris.

In reply to Mr. Hume, Mr. PEEL said, it was the intention of Government to continue the Camp on the Curragh of Kildare.

In reply to Mr. Oliveira, Lord PALMERSTON said, the Government wished, in the case of the gallant defenders of Kars, to act conformably to the usual practice in such cases; and he could not think any precedent could be found for extending such recognitions of services as had been conferred upon General Williams beyond the officer commanding.

In reply to Mr. Peacocke, Sir G. GREY said he had

instituted inquiries into the alleged assault upon Miss Archer by a police-constable at the proclamation of peace, and information had been sought from all those who could be ascertained to have been near the spot at the time of the assault. An advertisement had also been inserted in the papers on behalf of the friends of the young lady, to induce the gentleman who was said to have witnessed the assault, to come forward and give evidence, but no further information had been gained.

Mr. W. S. LINDSAY asked at what hour the display of fireworks would commence on Thursday week, and whether private families would be expected to illuminate. Lord PALMERSTON said the fireworks would commence as soon as the darkness would permit—about nine o'clock. It would of course rest with private families whether they would illuminate their own houses or not.

In reply to a question respecting an order recently issued referring to the disposal of horses belonging to officers in the Crimea, Mr. PEEL drew a distinction between baggage and riding animals, the former of which he did not think the Government was bound to provide transport home for. But, as regarded riding horses, he thought staff officers were entitled to compensation for the loss by the sale of their horses in the Crimea, or to an allowance for defraying the expenses of their return home. A telegraphic message had been sent to that effect.

On the order of the day for the consideration of the amendments to the Dissenters' Marriages Bill, Mr. GLADSTONE said, there were some provisions of the measure which he deemed most objectionable, and that he would move the recommittal of the bill with the view of proposing amendments, unless the honourable member (Mr. Pellatt), who had charge of it would consent that the bill should be re-committed.

—Mr. PELLATT expressed his readiness to assent to the suggestion of the right honourable member for Oxford University, and the bill was accordingly ordered to be re-committed.

On the order of the day for going into committee on the Church-rates Abolition Bill, Mr. HATTEY said, he had been requested by the honourable member for the Tower Hamlets (Sir W. Clay) to name the committee for the 2nd of June, with the view of going into committee on the earliest opportunity after that day. The committee was postponed to the 2nd of June.

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

It is announced that all prohibitions are speedily to be erased from the French tariff, and duties substituted.

The French Government has done tardy but meritorious justice in a matter which greatly reflected upon its fairness and toleration. The Haute Vienne, between the mountains of Auvergne and the Rhone, has been one of the departments in which churches on the voluntary principle have suffered most. An Imperial order, however, has been issued, enjoining the Prefects to respect these congregations and their pastors, and to allow to them that liberty of public worship, which is part of the common law of France. [We announced a fortnight ago that such an order was about to be issued.]

The *Moniteur* announces that Baron de Brunnew has presented to the Emperor a letter from the Emperor of Russia, which accredits him on an "extraordinary mission" to his Imperial Majesty.

We learn from Marseilles that five generals of the army of the East, among whom are Generals Vinoy, Puybusque, and Wimpfeu, have landed there from the Crimea. The landing of the 6th, 7th, and 31st Regiments of the Line had also commenced.

The *Times* Paris correspondent writes, that some surprise is expressed that no Russian Ambassador has been, as yet, named for Paris; and the displeasure excited by the treaty of the 15th of April, and perhaps by the suspicion that there is something more behind, is considered as the cause of delay.

The Archduke Maximilian of Austria arrived at Paris on Thursday. He is said to be "charged with the mission of offering to the Emperor of the French the mortal remains of the Duke de Reichstadt. The ashes of the son of Napoleon I. will be conveyed to France with great pomp, should the offer be accepted."

Prince Oscar of Sweden has arrived in Paris. He was received at the terminus with all the honours due to his rank.

We hear from Paris a rumour that there has been another secret and special treaty between England, France, and Austria. The supposition is, that it may possibly relate to the affairs of Italy.

RUSSIA.

The Czar is to arrive at Warsaw on the 22nd, and Prince Gortschakoff will precede him by a day.

Intelligence has been received by telegraph that General Edgar Ney reached St. Petersburg on the 14th.

The coronation of the Emperor Alexander is fixed for the 24th of August.

Accounts from Anapa of the 29th April say that hostilities have recommenced between the Russians and Circassians. Constantinople letters of the 9th state that the Russians began the war by attacking and burning the village of Sunnek. General Mouravieff and General Chruleff are inspecting the district occupied by the Cossacks of the Black Sea. On their judgment and report it depends whether and what forts on the north-east coast of the Black Sea shall be rebuilt.

The German papers state that Russia is preparing for an intervention in Persia.

Since the declaration of Peace, upwards of 40,000 men have left their cantonments between the north

side and Simpheropol, and have marched towards Perekop. The Grenadier corps is among the number. The officers of these fine regiments profess to regret that they were not engaged during the siege, and admit that they have lost considerably by sickness. The militia have suffered enormously. A more wretched looking set of mortals I never beheld. Their frames are stout enough but their faces are haggard, dull, and miserable beyond description.—*Letter from the Crimea.*

The Emperor of Russia has given the whole of his fleet a new arrangement, which had become necessary in consequence of the events of the late war. The Russian papers, in speaking of the new arrangements, say that the saving will now be effected by the abeyance of the expensive Black Sea fleet, in conformity with the terms of the Treaty of Peace, which amounts to from 15,000,000 to 20,000,000, will, in all probability, be applied to the development and strengthening of the naval force in the Baltic, White Sea, and Pacific Ocean.

THE CRIMEA.

Advices have been received from the head-quarters of the British army in the Crimea that 2,000 men had embarked on board the transports at Balaklava, to return to England. They are expected to reach Portsmouth between the 20th and 30th inst. Tartars arrive in shoals at Balaklava for shipment to the Dobrukscha. In the English general orders, officers are warned that it is very doubtful whether even the regulation number of horses can be shipped from the Crimea; and they are recommended to get rid of them by all means possible. This, it is said, has created great dissatisfaction, as the market for horse-flesh in the Crimea is a poor one—five pounds bid for fine chargers, and four francs for mules.

The *Pays* says: "The latest letters from the Crimea state that means had been found to enter the harbour of Sebastopol, after a canal had been opened across the three lines of sunken Russian vessels. The transports of the allied squadrons have already begun to ship the artillery. The points chosen for the embarkation are, for the English, the Admiralty, and for the French, the Quay Nicholas, situated at the extremity of the Rue St. Catherine."

The newspaper correspondents send home long accounts of their rambles in the Crimea; and of the wonderful adventures they met with among bad roads, no roads, and wayside inns.

The *Times* correspondent, who has been on a tour through a portion of the Crimea, affirms that the resources of Russia in men were reduced to the lowest ebb in the course of this war, and that she would have been utterly unable to maintain an army in the Crimea, or to continue in possession of it, had an aggressive movement been made after the fall of the Malakoff. "I was assured, on authority beyond question, that for two whole days this winter the troops at Mackenzie were left without food, in consequence of the state of the roads. The prices of provisions—allowing very amply for the extortions of needy Tartars, of famished innkeepers, and for an extremely liberal spirit on the part of English tourists—are enormous, and it is almost impossible in many places to procure barley or corn for horses at any sum whatever. The country is deserted, the fields uncultivated, the cares of agriculture unheeded." The same writer states that every day something new is gleaned from the Russians. "They say that they buried in and about Sebastopol 86,000 men, who were killed or died of wounds and sickness, and that 100,000 more perished in the Crimea who never smelt powder or saw a shot fired. The number invalided from wounds and disease is enormous; and in the Crimea alone, and in the provinces abutting upon it, the Russian army cannot have had less than a quarter of a million of soldiers put hors de combat. Todleben's great mistake, the engineers say, was making the Malakoff a closed work. Originally it was open in the rear, and was, indeed, a sort of lunette with strong flanking works; but as the siege progressed Todleben grew nervous about the safety of the work which occupied such an important position in his system of defence; he closed it in at the rear and laboured at the front and flanks to make it quite unassailable, or at all events inexpugnable, and he overdid the interior with enormous traverses which crowded the men, prevented their working their guns, or escaping from shells, so that it soon became terribly bloody."

TURKEY.

Further accounts from Constantinople, throw little additional light on the cause of the acts of cruelty at Marash on the English agent and his family. A Cadi was at the head of the fanatics, and it is stated that they burned M. Guarnani and his family alive. The Sultan had sent troops to suppress the disorders with great severity. It was intended to entrust Omar Pasha with the task of organising light troops, that would be rapidly conveyed to places menaced with insurrection, and to keep the malcontents and agitators in check.

The Turkish troops from Eupatoria had arrived, and some of the troops have been sent to Naplouse on account of the insurrection there. A commission has been appointed for the settlement of the accounts of the army of the East.

The treaty of Paris, published at Constantinople on the 5th, was preceded by a manifesto from the Sultan, in which, after expressing his gratification at the conduct of his subjects, without distinction, he urged their co-operation in carrying out the reforms, and expressed the gratitude of the Ottomans to the Allies.

BRAWL IN THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE.

The infamous imposture of the Holy Fire was exhibited in the church of the Holy Sepulchre on Satur-

day, the 25th April, with the usual scenes of profanity, superstition, and fanaticism. The Church was filled by a mixed multitude of Greeks, Armenians, and a few Mohammedans, while in the galleries were a good many Europeans. Some of the people were rushing about in troops, shouting, singing, dancing, raising men on their shoulders and carrying them round the church, and working themselves up to a high pitch of excitement. One man walked round the sepulchre with another on his shoulders, and a boy above him. One man would go before a number of others clapping his hands and singing, his followers answering in chorus. When the Pasha arrived, his soldiers were formed so as to keep a clear space for the procession round the sepulchre, and the people gathered in two dense masses round the holes in the wall from which the fire was to issue, the Greeks on one side and the Armenians on the other. The Greek bishop then made his appearance, and with seven banners before him marched three times round the sepulchre, after which, having divested himself of his cap and outer robes, he entered the sepulchre. The excitement of the masses round the holes now increased to frenzy; in the midst of great shouting the fire was handed out, and the flames spread from torch to torch amid a general roar of fanaticism. The Greeks and Armenians began to quarrel; very soon there was a general *mêlée*, and the church resounded with the blows of sticks, crashing of lamps, and tearing of pictures. The Mohammedan soldiers were called upon to interfere, and in half an hour their bayonets succeeded in clearing the church, the pavement of which was left strewn with broken glass and oil from the lamps. A stick had transfixed the fine picture of the Resurrection over the entrance to the tomb.

AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA.

The *Austrian Correspondence* announces that the journey of Prince Windischgratz to Berlin is without any political object. On the other hand, rumours, circulating in the diplomatic world of Berlin as of Paris, attribute this journey to the desire which Austria has to conclude an intimate alliance with Prussia, with a view to obtaining from Germany the modification of one of the stipulations of the Congress of Vienna. In virtue of that stipulation, the solidarity of defence between all the states comprising the confederation only exists for the German provinces, properly so called. Austria wishes to extend the advantages of the stipulation to her Hungarian, Galician, and Slavonian possessions, and, above all, to her Italian provinces, which she considers most menaced. But Prussia seems but slightly disposed to yield to that desire, and it is affirmed that up to the present moment the overtures of Austria have not been received with much readiness in Berlin. The minor Liberal States of Germany, which in general vote with Prussia, appear disposed to share in that opinion.

ITALY.

The public rejoicings for the eighth anniversary of the promulgation of the Piedmontese Constitution took place at Turin on the 11th. The King, accompanied by the Prince de Carignan, proceeded on horseback to the Church of the Mother of God, amid the enthusiastic cheers of the multitude. The Senate, the Chamber of Deputies, the Diplomatic Body, and the authorities, were present at the religious ceremony. The troops that had returned from the Crimea opened the military procession. They were loudly cheered on the Piazza del Po, and the Piazza del Castello. In the evening the city was brilliantly illuminated.

General Dabormida will go to St. Petersburg to carry the answer to the notification of the accession of Alexander II.

A report having been lately current that the Piedmontese Government have been invited to resume negotiations with the Holy See, Count de Cavour has contradicted the rumour, and in the sitting of the 7th gave the following explanations on the subject:—

It is true that, at a period now rather distant, counsels were given and steps taken to induce the Government to resume such negotiations, but I must add that those counsels and those invitations were not inspired by any desire to see us change our policy and abandon the principles which we maintain, but, on the contrary, by a wish to see arrangements concluded on bases in conformity to the maxims which with us have received the sanction of the law, for the question was of negotiations having more or less for basis the Concordat of 1801. Naturally these counsels have not been renewed. . . . With us public opinion is not in a condition likely to lead to a real agreement; for, as I have said, in order to come to an agreement, we must ourselves make concessions to the Church. We must therefore wait on the one hand, until the remembrance of the Concordat with Austria be a little weakened—(laughter)—and, on the other, until the situation of the Roman States be somewhat improved. (Laughter and approbation.) I do not know whether these reasons completely convinced my hearers; what is certain is, that my answer put an end to the discussion. I have mentioned a change of opinion as having occurred among many statesmen with regard to our relations with Rome, and I can assure you that several of those who at other times were disposed to judge severely of our conduct, if not to blame it openly, now not only do not blame us, but give us their full approbation. Would you know the reason? I will tell you. We owe it not to our merit, to our speeches, to our memoranda or writings, but we owe it to the Austrian Concordat. (Bravo!) This Concordat has proved the most eloquent defence in our favour that could ever be imagined. (Laughter.) I am therefore led to draw from this fact a conclusion which, for a moment, will bring me nearer to the Hon. Count Solara della Margherita—(laughter)—viz., that if, in a religious point of view, I can only feel regret at that Concordat, in a political point of view I join with Count Solara della Margherita to praise and applaud it.

The following announcement appears in the *Gazette de Cologne* of May 17: "The Governments of France and Austria have addressed circulars to their agents

at the Italian Courts, stating that these Powers will not suffer any anarchical movements in Italy, but at the same time that they will with pleasure use their influence with the Italian Governments to induce them to make desirable reforms." Other German journals speak of the entire homogeneity of views in regard to agitation in Italy which exists between the Governments of France and Austria.

The Neapolitan correspondent of the *Daily News* states that the miracle of the liquefaction of the blood of St. Januarius was wrought this year "so imperfectly, that the minds of the faithful are filled with fear. The descendants of the saint—who, by the bye, are allowed privileged seats during the operation—were loud in their cries at the delay in working the miracle; and, *horribile dictu*, the blood displayed in its centre a solid globular mass. Some great misfortune is said to be impending over the city, and the faithful shake their heads and speculate as to the form it will assume. For myself—a poor, carnal-minded man—I cannot but remember that Saturday night was one of the coldest we have had for many a week, or perhaps even many a month. On Monday their Majesties and all the Royal family visited and venerated the ampulla which contains the blood. Thirteen carriages and six conveyed them in grand state to the church, and the people were edified by another display of Royal piety."

M. Manin, formerly President of the Republic of Venice, has published a letter defending the policy of the Sardinian envoys at the Paris Congress. It is dated May 11. He says:—

The Piedmontese Government has not made concessions of any kind to the eternal enemies of Italy, namely, Austria and the Pope.

The pride, the interests, and the views of Austria have been seriously affected by the protest against the military occupation of the Legations and the Duchies, and by the denunciation before civilised Europe of the bad government of the various Italian Governments that are devoted to Austria, and by whose protection they exist. The Piedmontese Government has exercised and caused to be admitted their right to speak in the name of Italy. It has constrained the diplomatists of Europe to confess that the state of Italy is intolerable, and, by implication, that if a remedy be not applied, revolution would be necessary and legitimate.

No, the Piedmontese Government has not abandoned the cause of Italy; it has not been unfaithful to its national mission. Its title to the gratitude and confidence of the National Italian party are increased, and its moral importance, its influence, and consequently its force, in Italy and outside Italy, have become enlarged. It has taken a new step in a line in which, sustained, and, if necessary, impelled by the opinion of the country it governs, and by the applause, the sympathy, and the gratitude of the other Italian provinces, it will be easy for it to progress, and from which (as I hope and believe) it will be impossible to draw back.

MANTU.

UNITED STATES AND CENTRAL AMERICA.

The New Orleans papers announce that Pierre Soulé, who made himself a name while representing the United States at Madrid, was in that city, pleading for aid to General Walker, of Nicaragua.

Central America is the absorbing topic at Washington. In the Senate, Mr. Weller offered a resolution, calling on the President for all correspondence regarding the recognition of the new Government of Nicaragua. As a resolution having a similar object had been previously offered, the proposition was withdrawn, after some remarks from Mr. Weller and Judge Douglas, in which the conduct of the Administration was severely censured. Mr. Weller said that no man had been more shamefully misrepresented than General Walker.

The new steam frigate *Merrimac* will, it is said, be ordered to proceed to the Pacific without delay. We find, also, that the sloop of war, *St. Mary's*, was at Guayaquil on the 31st ult., and would leave for Panama on the 15th inst. She was daily looked for.

The interference of France and England in the quarrel between Nicaragua and Costa Rica, was on Tuesday to have been brought up in Congress by Mr. Humphrey Marshall, of Kentucky; and we are informed by our Washington correspondent that the Know-Nothings held a caucus in that city to consider the propriety of adopting some specific action, as a political party, with regard to the Central American question.

It is stated, upon good authority, that the Administration is prepared to recognise the Rivas-Walker Government, and to receive the New Minister from Nicaragua, Padre Vigily, who has probably ere this reached the capital.

The President and members of the Cabinet held a consultation here on Nicaraguan affairs. It is thought the outside pressure will compel the Administration to receive the new Minister, who has arrived in Washington.

In the Senate, on the 5th inst., Mr. Clingman asked leave to submit a joint resolution authorising the President to employ any part of the land or naval forces, and to call for and use any number of volunteers, to provide for the safety of passengers and property on thoroughfares or lines of travel between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, as guaranteed by existing treaty stipulations. Considerable debate ensued, and the House finally adjourned without receiving it.

Sheriff Jones, of Kansas, had been shot. The *New York Herald* announces, and the *Daily Times* contradicts the statement, that the Washington Cabinet had resolved to recognise the Nicaraguan Government of Walker. The last-mentioned journal examines closely the various accounts of Walker's position, and finds on the 1st April, he commanded at the most not more than 800 men, and so distributed as to enable him to bring only 500 to bear in the way of attack upon any given point.

Intelligence from Nicaragua, by telegraph, via

Panama, states that Greytown was blockaded by the British ship *Eurydice*, on the 20th ult. The steamers *Dabel* and *Charles Morgan* had reached Greytown from New Orleans, and landed 500 men for Walker. A brig from New Orleans was expected at Greytown for Walker, and would be stopped on her arrival by the *Eurydice*.

President Mora invaded Nicaragua with 2,500 men, and was to attack Walker in Rivas about the 19th ultimo. 3,000 men left Cogutipeque, Salvador, on the 14th, to help Costa Rica.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The French provincial journals are much occupied with the scenes of devastation which their localities present, in consequence of the continued rise of the rivers in the centre and south of France.

Marshal Espartero has inaugurated the railroad works at Saragossa. The enthusiasm of the population was at its height. The prorogation, if not a dissolution, of the Cortes, will shortly take place. Tranquillity reigns throughout the country.

M. de Roehow, who killed M. de Hinekeldy, in a duel, is sent to the fortress of Stettin, to undergo the sentence of imprisonment pronounced on him by court-martial. It is thought that the King will pardon the seconds, who have also been condemned.

Dr. Gobat, Protestant Bishop of Jerusalem, has just arrived at Marseilles.

The *Novedades* says that there are not fewer than ten editors of Madrid papers now confined in the goal of the Saladero, and that besides, there are a number of others undergoing condemnation in fortresses.

The refusal of the Grand-Duke of Tuscany to conclude a new concordat with the Pope, is reviving his popularity at Florence.

The 15th June is spoken of at Paris as the day upon which the baptism of the Imperial Prince will take place. An article of law granting 400,000 francs towards the expenses, has been adopted by the Legislative Body.

Letters from Stockholm connect Prince Napoleon's approaching visit with designs upon the hand of Princess Charlotte Eugenie, daughter of the King, and sixteen years of age.

A letter from Melbourne, dated 26th February, mentions the escape of Garratt, the notorious bank and railway depredator. It is supposed he effected his escape by means of bribery; but there is every reason to believe that he would be recaptured.

The *Journal de Rome* reproduces the protocol of the 8th April in extenso.

The joint remonstrance to the King of Greece is likely to be very serious and harsh. The French Government is in great perplexity as to the withdrawal of its troops, which are, as it were, besieged by brigands. Otho, to avoid accepting or rejecting certain conditions proposed by the Allies, is on the eve of quitting Greece, and visiting Carlsbad. The Queen, if left regent, will make a stout resistance to any demands; and she cannot be so easily coerced, as was proved in the case of Kalergis.

General D'Orgoni is on his way to Europe as "Extraordinary Ambassador" from the Burmese empire to France.

The latest advices from Victoria continue to tell of a great production of gold, and large arrivals in Melbourne. Some rich quartz reefs had been discovered at the M'Ivor field. In New South Wales, fresh discoveries of gold have occurred at Ophir Creek; and there is a prevalent belief that "the Ophir country is one large rich gold-field."

On the 25th January, Sir William Denison laid the first stone of St. Paul's College, which will form part of Sydney University. The ceremony went off with great *éclat*. The college is expected to cost 115,000*l*.

The cereal crops of New South Wales reaped at the beginning of this year were excellent and abundant.

At Malta there has been a military riot, arising from our Italian Legion parading the streets of Valetta with songs of liberty and insults against the natives. A ship of war had to be moved into the harbour to prevent further disturbances.

A letter from Vienna, in the *German Journal* of Frankfort, says: "The Jesuits are displaying great activity at this moment. In a few days they will assume the direction of two Churches at Vienna, one of them that of the University. Perhaps, also, they will be able to acquire the academical college, negotiations about it being in progress. At Linz their school has obtained the right of examining candidates for degrees. Their agents are acting with great zeal also in Slavonia and Croatia."

It is rumoured at Vienna that the French have resolved to leave 60,000 men at the service of the Sultan to enable him to execute his hatti-sherif. England leaves 10,000. The Sultan is said to have given his entire consent to this arrangement, believing that foreign troops are needed to preserve the peace of his metropolis, or perhaps to keep him safe on his throne.

Baron de Bourqueney and Baron Hübnér are raised from Ministers to be "Ambassadors" at the Austrian and French Courts respectively. This is regarded as a sign of increased amity between France and Austria.

The Maine Liquor Law has been condemned in the State that gave it birth; the Maine Legislature have passed an act repealing its prohibitory provisions.

As Mr. James Currie, farmer, of Fenwick, was returning home, he was most brutally attacked near the village by five men, and left for dead. They robbed him of two 10*l*. notes, a silver watch, and other property.

TRIAL OF WILLIAM PALMER.

The long-deferred trial of William Palmer commenced, on Wednesday, at the Old Bailey. At a very early hour every entrance to the court was besieged by persons of respectable appearance who were favoured with cards giving them a right of entrance. Among the distinguished persons who were present at the opening were the Earl of Derby, Earl Grey, the Marquis of Anglesea, Lord Lucan, Lord Denbigh, Prince Edward of Saxe Weimar, Lord W. Lennox, Lord G. G. Lennox, and Lord H. Lennox. The Lord Advocate of Scotland sat by the side of the Attorney-General during the trial. At ten o'clock the learned judges, Lord Chief Justice Campbell, Mr. Baron Alderson, and Mr. Justice Crosswell, accompanied by the Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs, and several aldermen, took their seats on the bench. The prisoner, William Palmer, was immediately placed in the dock; and to the indictment which charged him with the wilful murder of John Parsons Cook, who died at Rugeley, upon the 21st November last, he pleaded, in a clear, low, but perfectly audible and distinct tone, "Not guilty." The prisoner is described in the calendar as "William Palmer, thirty-one, surgeon, of superior degree of instruction." In appearance Palmer is much older, his countenance is clear and open, the forehead high, the complexion ruddy, and the general impression which one would form from his appearance would be rather favourable than otherwise, although his features are of a common and somewhat mean cast. His manner was remarkably calm and collected throughout the whole of the day. The counsel engaged in the case were: The Attorney-General, Mr. E. James, Q.C., Mr. Bodkin, Mr. Welsby, and Mr. Huddleston, for the Crown; and Mr. Serjeant Shee, Mr. Grove, Q.C., Mr. Gray, and Mr. Kenealy, for the prisoner. A most respectable jury having been empanelled, and all the witnesses, with the exception of the medical men, having been ordered out of court,

The Attorney-General, amid breathless silence, opened the case on the part of the prosecution. His speech occupied four hours in delivery. In the early part of his narration, after reminding the jury that their duty was to be impartial, the Attorney-General said that the case he should urge against Palmer was—"that, being in desperate circumstances, with ruin, disgrace, and punishment staring him in the face, which could only be averted by means of money, he took advantage of his intimacy with Cook, when Cook had become the winner of a considerable sum, to destroy him, in order to obtain possession of his money." It is right to look at the motives which might induce a man to commit a crime charged against him. As early as 1853, Palmer, in difficulties, began to raise money on bills; in 1854 his circumstances became worse. Among the bills on which he raised money, was one for 2,000*l.*; it bore the acceptance of his mother: that acceptance was forged by Palmer. In 1854 he owed a large sum; he insured the life of his wife; she died in September; by her death he realised 13,000*l.*, and by means of that discharged some of his most pressing liabilities. In the course of the same year he insured his brother's life; issued fresh bills—12,500*l.* in all—and got them discounted at 60 per cent.; and "there was due in November, 1855, no less than 11,500*l.* upon bills, every one of which bore the forged acceptance of the prisoner's mother." Palmer's brother Walter died in August, 1855; his life had been insured for 13,000*l.*; but the offices declined to pay. In the August of that year, Cook executed an assignment of his two horses Polestar and Sirius to Pratt, a solicitor, in order to enable Palmer to raise money. Pratt sent down a cheque for the amount; but he struck out the word "bearer," and wrote "order" in its place; the effect of which was to necessitate the indorsement of the cheque by Cook. Palmer "forged the name of John Parsons Cook on the back of that cheque. Cook never received the money." Within ten days from the period when Cook came to his end the bill would have fallen due, and it would have become apparent that Palmer forged the endorsement. In September, Palmer asked a person named Bates to propose his life for insurance; representing him as a man of substance. Bates declined at first; Palmer pressed him, and Cook interposed, saying, "You had better do it; it will be for your benefit; you will be quite safe with Palmer." Bates proposed for 25,000*l.*, Cook attesting; but the proposal failed. On the 6th November, Pratt issued but did not serve two writs for 4,000*l.*, one against Palmer, one against his mother, and pressed him to meet the bills. On the 13th November, 1855, Cook's horse Polestar won a handicap at Shrewsbury Races; Cook won a total of 2,050*l.*; on the ensuing Monday he was entitled to receive at Tattersall's 1,050*l.*; he had in his pockets between 700*l.* and 800*l.* Within a week from that time Cook died. He was a young man, only twenty-eight. Slightly disposed to pulmonary complaints, he was under the care of Dr. Savage, whom he saw from time to time; and who would state that within a fortnight of his death Cook had nothing on earth the matter with him except a certain degree of thickening of the tonsils or some of the glands of the throat. These were the newer incidents in the case. From this point the Attorney-General dealt with facts more generally known. He described the scene at the inn in Shrewsbury on the 14th November, where one Fisher found Palmer and Cook drinking together, and heard Cook say, after drinking a glass of brandy and water, "Good God! there's something in it; it burns my throat;" how Palmer drank up himself the last drops, and then handed it to Fisher to taste. Cook was sick and ill that night, and he gave Fisher 800*l.* or 900*l.* to keep. Next day he grew better, and Fisher restored the money. The Attorney-General here alleged, that having been prepared by antimony, Cook was killed by strychnine. He described the operation of

strychnine, which affects the voluntary muscles of the body, and leaves the power of consciousness unimpaired. He showed that Palmer was not ignorant of the effect of strychnine; for in a medical work found in his house he had written—"Strychnine kills by causing tetanic fixing of the respiratory muscles." Next the counsel narrated the incidents at Rugeley. Cook and Palmer arrived there on the 18th. On the 17th, Cook took coffee ordered by Palmer, and was shortly afterwards sick. Toast-and-water was brought to him from Palmer's house; broth was sent to him by Palmer; in both cases sickness ensued; and the chambermaid, Elizabeth Mills, who took two spoonfuls of the broth, was also sick and obliged to go to bed. Palmer called in Dr. Bamford, an old man of eighty, saying Cook had a bilious attack. Dr. Bamford could not discover a single bilious symptom. Barley-water was given to Cook when Palmer was not there, and it did not produce vomiting. Two hours afterwards, arrowroot was given when Palmer was present, and again Cook vomited. This took place on Saturday the 17th. During Sunday Palmer was not present; Cook took Bamford's medicines, and his health improved. On Monday Palmer went to London; but before he started, he gave Cook some coffee—the vomiting returned. And what did Palmer go to London for? He went to arrange Cook's accounts; and he directed one Herring to obtain the money at Tattersall's, and pay his own debts with it. "Palmer did not hesitate to apply Cook's money to the payment of his own debts." He returned to Rugeley the same evening, and bought three grains of strychnine of one Newton, assistant to Mr. Salt, surgeon. That evening Cook took pills—whether those prepared by Dr. Bamford, or pills substituted by Palmer, the jury must say. At midnight Cook roused the house, shrieking dreadfully, shouting "Murder!" and calling upon Christ to save his soul; his eyes starting, his body convulsed. Palmer was sent for; he came instantly, and gave Cook some medicine, that instantly made him vomit. Cook soon after fell asleep. The next day, Tuesday, Palmer bought two drachms of prussic acid, six grains of strychnine, and a certain quantity of Batley's liquor of opium. He did not purchase it at Salt's; he got it from Mr. Hawkins, a druggist with whom he had not dealt for two years. On that Tuesday, Mr. Jones, a personal friend of Cook, came from Lutterworth at Palmer's call—Cook was "suffering from bilious diarrhoea." Jones found no sign of bile. The three medical men—Palmer, Jones, Bamford—consulted, and it was agreed that Bamford should make up some pills. Palmer followed Bamford to his surgery, and asked him to write directions on the box. Before Palmer gave Cook the pills, he called Jones's attention to the writing on the lid—so distinct and vigorous for a man upwards of eighty. That was about half-past ten. Jones slept in Cook's room that night. He had scarcely been in bed fifteen minutes before Cook started up with a frightful scream crying "Send for the doctor!" Palmer came immediately, remarking, "I never dressed so quickly in my life." Cook was gasping for breath, screaming violently; his body convulsed with cramps and spasms; his neck rigid. Palmer ran out, and instantly returned with two pills, which he said were ammonia—a drug that requires much time in preparation. Cook took the pills. "He was instantly seized with violent convulsions; by degrees his body began to stiffen out; then suffocation commenced. Agonized with pain, he repeatedly entreated to be raised. They tried to raise him, but it was not possible. The body had become rigid as iron, and it could not be done. He then said, 'Pray turn me over.' They did turn him over on the right side. He gasped for breath, but could utter no more. In a few moments all was tranquil—the tide of life was ebbing fast. Jones leant over him to listen to the action of the heart. Gradually the pulse ceased—all was over—he was dead." The Attorney-General described, in conclusion, how Palmer busied himself about the burial of Cook; how he was found overhauling his clothes; how the betting-book of the dead man and his money were missing; how he produced a paper stating that Cook was liable to him for 4,000*l.*, worth of bills; how he tried to obtain from Cheshire the postmaster his signature to that paper, as evidence that he witnessed its signature by Cook; how Dr. Bamford was induced by Palmer to certify that Cook died of "apoplexy;" how at the post mortem examination the body was found to be healthy; and how, when it was exhumed two months afterwards, Palmer tried to play tricks with the jar containing the intestines, and offered to bribe a post-boy to upset the fly and break the jar on the road. The Attorney-General, towards the close of his speech, in speaking of strychnine, said that when it has been used it is sometimes found and sometimes not. The medical men never said that it cannot be detected. "What they have asserted is this—the detection of its presence, where its administration is a matter of certainty, is a matter of the greatest uncertainty." "If in the end all should fail in satisfying you of his guilt, in God's name let not the innocent suffer! If, on the other hand, the facts that will be presented to you should lead you to the conclusion that he is guilty, the best interests of society demand his conviction."

The Court adjourned for a short time after this address; and on its return the witnesses for the prosecution were examined. During the first two days of the trial, the witnesses were Ishmael Fisher, wine-merchant; George Read, "keeper of a house frequented by sporting characters"; William Scaife Gibson, assistant to Mr. Heathcote, surgeon, Shrewsbury; Elizabeth Mills, chambermaid, and Lavinia Barnes, waitress, at the Talbot Arms, Rugeley; Mr. Gardner, solicitor, of Rugeley; Mrs. Ann Brooks, who "lives at Manchester, and is in the habit of attending races"; Ann Rowley, "charwoman employed by Palmer"; Charles Horley, gardener,

occasionally employed by Palmer; Sarah Bond, house-keeper at the Talbot; William Henry Jones, surgeon, Lutterworth; Dr. Savage, physician; and Mr. Newton, assistant to Mr. Salt, surgeon. These witnesses deposed to the circumstances that occurred at Shrewsbury and Rugeley during the week previous to the death of Cook, as described by the Attorney-General. The chief witnesses were—Fisher, who heard Cook complain that something had been put in his brandy-and-water; Mills, Barnes, and Jones, who detailed the incidents at the Talbot Arms; Savage, who spoke to the health of Cook; and Newton, who deposed that he had given Palmer three grains of strychnine on the 19th November. Newton said he had not mentioned this fact at the inquest, because he thought it would displease Mr. Salt if he knew that his assistant had given Palmer anything. But Newton had mentioned a conversation between himself and Palmer on the 25th November. "He asked me how I was, and to have some brandy-and-water. No one else was present. He asked me what was the dose of strychnine to give to kill a dog? I told him, a grain. He asked me what would be the appearance of the stomach after death? I told him that there would be no inflammation, and that I did not think it could be found. Upon that he snapped his finger and thumb in a quiet way, and exclaimed, as if communing with himself, 'That's all right!'" Serjeant Shee tried to shake the testimony of Mills as to the transactions at the Talbot, but not with much success. She had not stated some things before the Coroner—why? "I did nothing but answer the questions put to me." The Attorney-General called Mr. Gardner to show that the way in which the Coroner conducted the case, omitting to ask questions, neglecting to take down answers, had led to frequent expostulations. The depositions were read, and Mr. Justice Crosswell remarked that there was nothing to show whether any questions had been put at all. For all that appeared, the witnesses might have made voluntary statements. Mrs. Brooks's evidence was to this effect—that one evening, during the Shrewsbury races, she called upon Palmer, and found him holding a tumbler, in which there seemed to be a small quantity of something like water, between him and the light, and now and then shaking it.

On Friday, the Court sat, with a slight interval, from ten to six. Sixteen witnesses were examined: Charles Joseph Roberts, the apprentice of Mr. Hawkins, druggist, Rugeley; William Stevens, the stepfather of Cook; Mary Keesley, a widow, one of the two women employed to lay out the body; Dr. Harland and Mr. Devonshire, medical gentlemen who assisted at the post mortem examinations of Cook's body in November and January; Dr. Monckton, who conducted the January examination; John Boycott, clerk to the firm of Gardner and Co.; James Myatt, postboy; Samuel Cheshire, postmaster; Mr. Weatherby, Secretary of the Jockey Club; Captain Hatton, Chief Constable at Stafford; Ellis Crisp, Inspector of Police at Rugeley; J. Burdon, another Police Inspector; Elizabeth Hawkes, keeper of a boarding-house in Beaufort Buildings, Strand; Frederick Slack, porter to Mrs. Hawkes; and George Herring, a racing man.

Mr. Roberts deposed to the fact, that on the 20th November, Palmer bought at the shop of his master, Mr. Hawkins, "six grains of strychnine, two drachms of prussic acid, and two drachms of Batley's solution of opium," commonly called "Batley's sedative." Mr. Stevens described Palmer's conduct after the death of Cook. He showed anxiety to have the body "fastened up at once," and volunteered to bury it. On the disappearance of the betting-book, he repeatedly said, "It is no manner of use if you find it." Mr. Stevens quietly spoke of calling in a solicitor, and then, altering his tone and manner, asked, "Mr. Palmer, if I should call in a solicitor to give me advice, I suppose you will have no objection to answer any question he may put to you." I altered my tone purposely. I looked steadily at him, but although the moon was shining, I could not see his features distinctly. He said, with a spasmodic convulsion of the throat which was perfectly apparent, "Oh no, certainly not." Mary Keesley deposed that the body of Cook was very stiff; she had laid out many corpses, but never one so stiff before; she was obliged to tie the arms down with tape; the body was still warm. [This was within an hour of the death of Cook.] Dr. Harland described the post mortem examinations. All the medical men agreed that the body was in a healthy state. "The blood was in a fluid state. That is not usual. It is found so in some cases of sudden death, which are of rare occurrence." Mr. Harland deposed also, that Palmer told him that Cook had an "epileptic fit on Monday and Tuesday," and that "old disease in the heart and head" would be found. The witness also described how Palmer pushed against Devonshire and Newton, who were opening the stomach in January. Palmer tried to carry away the jar containing the intestines. It was found that a slit had been cut in the cover. "The stomach contained about three ounces of a brownish fluid. There was nothing particular in that. Palmer was looking on, and said, 'They won't hang us yet.' He said that to Mr. Bamford, in a loud whisper." Dr. Monckton entirely concurred in the evidence of Dr. Harland.

The other remarkable statement was that of Myatt, the postboy. He was engaged to drive Mr. Stevens to Stafford in a fly. On his way from home to the Talbot Arms, he met Palmer. "He asked me if I was going to drive Mr. Stevens to Stafford. I told him I was." "What did he say to you then?" "He asked me if I would upset them." "Them?" "Had anything been said about a jar?" "He said he supposed I was going to take the jar?" "What did you say then?" "I said I believed I was." "What did he say after that?" "He said, 'Do you think you could

upset them?" "What answer did you make?"—"I told him 'No.'" "Did he say anything more?"—"He said 'If you could there's a ten-pound note for you.'" "What did you say to that?"—"I told him I could not."

The other evidence related to the transactions between Palmer and Cheshire the postmaster, and Palmer and Herring; and fully sustained the statement of the Attorney-General. It was also proved by Slack the porter, that Palmer sent from London a present of game and fish to Ward, the Coroner, on the first December last.

At the close of the day, Lord Campbell suggested that "some facility of breathing fresh air should be afforded to the jury." Were it not that he made it a practice to take a walk early in the morning in Kensington Gardens, he should himself find it impossible to endure the fatigue of so arduous a trial. Mr. Baron Alderson: "Why should they not take a walk in the Temple Gardens? There could be no more tranquil spot." The sheriffs intimated that they would attend to the recommendations of the learned judges; and the Court adjourned.

On Saturday, the court was crowded as before. The prisoner looked better than on the preceding day, but there was a slight twitching about the mouth that indicated nervous affection and mental anxiety. It was rumoured, that during Thursday and Friday he had an impression that the case was going in his favour, but it was apparent that during Saturday he regarded more seriously and with more anxiety the position in which he was placed. Amongst the spectators in the vicinity of the bench, were Mr. Dallas, the American ambassador, and Earl Grey. The first witness examined was George Bates, Palmer's groom, upon whose life, it will be recollected, it was proposed to effect an insurance. His evidence was not important. The remainder of the sitting was almost exclusively occupied in the reception of medical evidence. The witnesses included Mr. T. B. Curling, M.R.C.S.; Dr. Todd, Physician of King's College for the last twenty years; Sir Benjamin Brodie; Dr. Daniel, surgeon at Westminster Hospital; and Mr. Solly, surgeon at St. Thomas's Hospital. Each of these gentlemen has devoted special attention to the subject of tetanus, or the spasmodic affection of the voluntary muscles. Dr. Curling said:—

There are only two sorts of tetanus—idiopathic and traumatic. There are other diseases in which we see contraction of the muscles, but we do not term them tetanus. Idiopathic tetanus does not arise from wounds; traumatic does arise from wounds. Idiopathic tetanus arises from exposure to damp and cold, or from the irritation of worms in the alimentary canal; it is a very rare disease in this country, and, where it does arise, it does not usually end fatally.

Dr. Curling described the symptoms of the former:

The traumatic tetanus manifests itself first by stiffness about the jaws and about the muscles, and by debility of the muscles of the abdomen. There is a dragging pain at the pit of the stomach, and in many instances, in acute cases, the muscles of the back are also affected. The symptoms are liable to aggravation, and there are continued paroxysms. As those paroxysms go on they become more frequent and more severe. When they occur, the body is thrown backward; in some instances, and no less frequently, it is bent forward, and there is a difficulty of swallowing. The disease might prove fatal in one or two days. The patient would die somewhat suddenly from suffocation, owing to the closure of the opening of the windpipe, or the patient might be worn out by severe and painful spasms. The muscles will relax, and the patient will gradually sink and die. The locking of the jaw is almost a constant symptom of traumatic tetanus. I may say constantly. I never knew or read of traumatic tetanus being produced by a sore throat or by a chancre. In my opinion a syphilitic sore would not produce tetanus. I know of no instance in which a syphilitic sore has led to tetanus.

His examination then proceeded.

You have heard the account given by Mr. Jones of the death of the deceased—were the symptoms there consistent with any form of traumatic tetanus that has ever come under your observation?—No.

What distinguishes it from such cases?—The sudden onset of the disease. In all cases which have come under my notice the disease was preceded by the milder symptoms of tetanus, gradually proceeding to the complete development.

Were the symptoms described by the woman Mills as being presented on the Monday night those of tetanus?—No: not of the tetanus of disease.

Assuming tetanus to be synonymous with convulsive or spasmodic action of the muscles, was there in that sense tetanus on the Monday night?—No doubt there was spasmodic action of the muscles.

There was not, in your opinion, either idiopathic or traumatic tetanus?—No. Some poisons will produce tetanus. Nux vomica, acting through its poisons strychnine and bruchia, poisons of a cognate character, produces that effect. I never saw a case of either human or animal life destroyed by strychnine.

Witness was severely cross-examined by Mr. Serjeant Shee, but nothing material was elicited. He said that one of the chief characteristics of tetanus was that the consciousness was not affected. Dr. Todd gave evidence to the same effect. He said that there might be cases of remission of tetanus, but not a total subsidence. Having heard described the symptoms attending the death of the deceased, and the post mortem examination, he was of opinion that in this case there was neither apoplexy nor epilepsy.

Dr. Bamford being too ill to attend the court, his depositions were read, from which the following is an extract:—

I considered death to have been the result of congestion of the brain when the post mortem examination was made, and I do not see any reason to alter that opinion. I have attended other patients for Mr. Palmer. I attended Mrs. Palmer some days before her decease; also two children and a gentleman from London, who

was on a visit at Mr. Palmer's house, and who did not live many hours after I was called in. The whole of those patients died. Mr. Palmer first made an application to me for a certificate of Mr. Cook's death on the following Sunday morning, when I objected, saying, "He is your patient." I cannot remember his reply; but he wished me to fill up the certificate, and I did so.

Dr. Todd said:

Having heard the deposition of Dr. Bamford read, I do not believe that the deceased died from apoplexy or from epilepsy. I never know tetanus arise either from syphilitic sores or from sore throat. There are poisons which will produce tetanic convulsions. The principal of those poisons are nux vomica and those which contain as their active ingredients strychnine and bruchia. I have never seen human life destroyed by strychnine, but I have seen animals destroyed by it frequently. A medical practitioner would have no difficulty in distinguishing the symptoms of the two descriptions of tetanus. I heard the description given of the spinal cord after death, and there was nothing in it to indicate any difficulty in judging of the spinal marrow.

Sir Benjamin Brodie had heard the symptoms which accompanied the death of Mr. Cook, and he was of opinion that, so far as there was a general contraction of the muscles, they resembled those of traumatic tetanus; but as to the course those symptoms took, they were entirely different.

I do not believe that death here arose from what we call tetanus either traumatic or idiopathic. I never knew it as the result of sore throat, or of any form of syphilitic diseases. The symptoms in this case are inconsistent with death from apoplexy. Perhaps I had better say at once that I never saw a case in which the symptoms that I have heard described arose from a disease. (Sensation.) When I say that, I of course refer only to the general course that the symptoms took.

Dr. Daniel never knew a case of syphilitic sore producing tetanus. The symptoms as they had been described certainly could not be referable to apoplexy or epilepsy. In his judgment the symptoms in the case of Mr. Cook could not be referred either to idiopathic or traumatic tetanus. Mr. Solly said that in his judgment the symptoms detailed in Mr. Cook's case were referable neither to apoplexy, epilepsy, nor to any disease that he had ever witnessed. Dr. Lee gave evidence that from his experience connected with the Lock Hospital, in which 3,000 cases a year came under his notice, he had never known syphilis to produce tetanus.

Several witnesses, medical men and others, were then examined as to the symptoms that appeared in the case of Agnes Sennett, who died in Glasgow Infirmary in 1845, from having taken some strychnine pills intended for a paralytic patient. Dr. Corbett said the symptoms were these:—

There was a strong retraction of the mouth; the face was much suffused and red; the pupils of the eyes were dilated; the head was bent back; the spine was curved; and the muscles were rigid and hard like a board; the arms were stretched out; the hands were clinched; and there were severe paroxysms recurring every few seconds. She died in about an hour and a quarter after taking the pills.

Another witness said of the patient: "We were obliged to cut her clothes off, because she never moved. She was like a poker." Evidence to a similar effect was given in the case of Mrs. Smyth, of Romsey, who, in 1848, was poisoned by taking strychnine pills through the mistake of Mr. Jones, a chemist. Her lady's-maid fully described the symptoms, which were much the same as those in the Glasgow case.

Jane Witham, a respectable-looking young woman, was then called as a witness for the prosecution. She was the servant of the late Mrs. Dove, of Leeds—the inquest on whose body, in March last, excited so much public interest. The name, however, of the lady to whom she was servant, was purposely withheld from the Court. She and Mr. Morley, the surgeon, described the symptoms in the case alluded to, which will be fresh in the recollection of our readers, and tally with the descriptions above given. At five the case was adjourned. The jury were then removed in the charge of Mr. Harker and two other officers of the court, but arrangements were made for them to have a ride in the country on Sunday.

On Monday, Dr. Alfred Taylor, of Guy's Hospital, was examined at great length. The symptoms described by Mr. Jones in the case of Cook appeared to him to be the same as those evinced in animals after taking strychnine. The stomach and intestines of Cook when sent to him for analysis were in a most unfavourable state, the stomach having been cut from end to end, and all the contents gone. He only found antimony.

I afterwards had, at my request, other parts of the body sent up. They were the liver, spleen, and the two kidneys. I analysed all. They all yielded antimony. I heard the account given by the female servant of the frequent vomitings of Mr. Cook. I heard also the account given of his vomitings at Shrewsbury, and the account given by Mr. Jones and Mr. Gibson, and Mr. Bamford's depositions as to the concomitant symptoms, and they are such as would be likely to be produced by antimony. I have attended to the evidence given as to the cases of Mrs. Smith, Agnes French, and a lady at Leeds, and a gentleman mentioned by Mr. Moore. Those deaths I consider were occasioned by strychnine. The symptoms of Cook appeared to be of a similar character. As a professor of medical science, I know of no cause to which Mr. Cook's death could be referred but strychnine. (Some sensation in the Court followed this statement of the witness.)

This witness was severely and at great length cross-examined by Mr. Serjeant Shee, but nothing material was elicited. His testimony was not shaken.

Dr. Rees, who assisted Dr. Taylor in the analysis, was next examined. He agreed generally with the latter's statements. The symptoms accompanying the deaths of the animals alluded to by Professor Taylor

were very similar to those described in the case of Mr. Cook. He had heard the cases that had been mentioned in this court, and the symptoms in every one of them were analogous to those in the case of Mr. Cook.

Dr. Robert Christisen, of Edinburgh, gave the results of his experiments with strychnine. No natural disease that he knew, or ever heard of, would produce such symptoms as those which preceded the death of Cook. Where death was the consequence of the administration of strychnine, if the quantity was small, he should not expect to find any trace in the body after death. If there was an excess of quantity—more than was required to cause the death by absorption—he should expect to find that excess in the stomach. The colour tests for the detection of the presence of strychnine were uncertain.

Yesterday, the witnesses examined were Dr. John Jackson, who had had many cases of tetanus under his treatment, Mr. D. Burgen chief superintendent of the Stafford Police; Mr. Deane, solicitor employed by certain insurance companies to attend the inquest on the body of Anne Palmer, the prisoner's wife; Mr. Eppin, a solicitor acting with Mr. Padwick; Mr. W. Bamford, the surgeon; Mr. Pratt, the solicitor who had been in the habit of discounting Palmer's bills; Mr. Armstrong, an attorney at Rugeley; Mr. Strawbridge, the manager of the Rugeley Bank; Mr. Walbank, a butcher who had lent the prisoner money; and Mr. Wright, a solicitor of Birmingham. Dr. Bamford appeared very weak and ill, and gave his evidence with difficulty. It was not very important except the conclusion. The doctor said that after the inquest the prisoner said to me, "We ought not to have let that jar go." The other witnesses mainly testified to facts mentioned in the Attorney-General's opening speech. Mr. Stevens showed that the prisoner had forged Cook's name on the back of a bill. It appears that Palmer owed Mr. Wright 10,000*l.*, for which 60 per cent. per annum interest was paid. The witness produced bills of exchange to the amount of 6,500*l.*, bearing the signature of Sarah Palmer. During the month of November he was pressing the prisoner for payment of the money that had been advanced, and in the beginning of December the bill of sale was put in force. Mr. Strawbridge said that the acceptances of Sarah Palmer to the whole of the bills produced by the last witness were forgeries. By Serjeant Shee: The signature is an imitation of Mrs. Palmer's handwriting, but it would not have deceived me for a minute. The case for the prosecution was here concluded. The speech of Serjeant Shee for the defence was postponed until Wednesday (this) morning.

Court, Personal, and Official News.

The ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of a new Military Hospital at Hamble, Southampton, took place on Monday. The Queen, Prince Albert, the Duchess of Kent, and a numerous suite, left Osborne in the morning, and set sail for Southampton, where they landed at the jetty at eleven o'clock, and were loudly saluted by a great crowd of people. The Queen received upon the jetty an address from the Mayor and Corporation of Southampton, which was presented to her by the Mayor, and handed by Her Majesty to the Secretary of State. On arriving at the place where the stone was to be laid, the commanding engineer presented to Her Majesty the plans of the building. The Queen having signified her approval of them, they were placed in the copper box prepared for the purpose, together with coins, medals, and cross, and the vellum document recording the event. The ceremony of laying the stone was then proceeded with, the military bands playing. When the Queen struck the stone, after having ascertained that it was correctly laid, a signal flag was hoisted, the ships in the river saluted, the troops presented arms, and the military bands played "God save the Queen." The Queen then directed the Secretary of State to declare that the first stone of the Military Hospital was laid, and that Her Majesty was pleased to sanction its being called the Royal Victoria Hospital. The bishop of the diocese offered up prayers, and pronounced a blessing, and the 100th Psalm was sung by the choir. The troops then marched past the Queen in quick time, and the Queen returned to the jetty and re-embarked.

Earl Granville was the nobleman selected by Her Majesty to dance with the Princess Royal, in the first quadrille after supper, at the State ball last week.

Mr. Gibbs, the tutor to the Prince of Wales, and who has hitherto had the charge also of Prince Alfred, will for the future (says the *Court Journal*) be an *attaché* exclusively of the heir apparent, though of course superintending the education of Prince Alfred as usual.

Mr. Henry George Hughes, of Cornadung, has been returned for Longford, in the room of the late Mr. Richard Maxwell Fox. There was no opposition.

The *Times*, "upon the best possible authority," contradicts two reports in the Indian papers,—first, that orders have been sent out to annex Hyderabad in the Deccan; next, that preliminary steps have been taken to absorb Baroda. Both stories are destitute of foundation.

On dit that Lord Stratford de Redcliffe comes home on leave of absence, and that he will probably take occasion to defend himself. On dit that the Government of Victoria has been offered to (and refused by) Sir H. Bulwer and the Hon. Charles Villiers.

Major-General Sir James Love, K.C.B. and K.H., Lieutenant-Governor of Jersey, is to proceed to the Australian colonies.—*United Service Gazette*.

Lord Panmure has been visiting Mr. Whitworth, the Manchester engineer, and Lord Hardinge has also

visited him: the object of both War Minister and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces was to witness the effects of Mr. Whitworth's invention in gun-construction, which is expected to "achieve results hitherto unheard of in field artillery."

A letter appears from Lord Ranelagh to the members of the Carlton Club, upon the subject of the notice he has given relating to the exclusion of those members of the club who belong to the present Government. The following are the resolutions: "1. That this club was established for political purposes. 2. That the political principles of this club, as established, were entirely adverse to those advocated by the present Government. 3. That the presence in this club of gentlemen who have altered their political views, and are members of the present Government (to which Government the Conservative party has been in direct opposition), is injurious to the interests of the Conservative party, and is at variance with the principles upon which the club was established." Lord Ranelagh draws a marked distinction between the members of Lord Aberdeen's Government to those of Lord Palmerston's.

Lord Adolphus Fitzclarence, the third son of his late Majesty King William IV., by Mrs. Dorothy Jordan, the celebrated actress, died on Saturday. He was born in 1802, and, like his Royal father, entered the navy at an early age. In that service he rose by seniority, and had attained at the time of his death the rank of Rear-Admiral. He also held the honorary distinction of a Knight Grand Cross of Hanover, and the appointments of a Naval Aide-de-Camp to her present Majesty, and Ranger of the Home Forest, at Windsor. He was well known in the leading circles of fashion, and lived and died unmarried.

Lord John Russell delivered a lecture at Stroud, on Wednesday evening, on the "Study of History."

Lord Ebrington is suffering from a severe attack of ophthalmia, which almost threatens to deprive him of sight.

It has been determined that Lord Granville, the President of the Council, shall proceed upon an extraordinary mission to St. Petersburg on the occasion of the Emperor of Russia's coronation.

Lord Stanley, M.P., has been addressing "a large and enthusiastic meeting of his constituents" at King's Lynn, on the present aspect of foreign and domestic politics.

The statements that Lord Palmerston is ill are incorrect. He has recovered from his temporary indisposition of last week.

It is stated that the proceeds of the two lectures delivered by Kossuth, in St. George's Hall, Bradford, on the Austrian Concordat, amounted to 205*l.*; and, moreover, that the expenses incurred having been defrayed by a committee of local gentlemen, a cheque for this sum will be handed to the illustrious Magyar.

Miscellaneous News.

The boiler of the steamer Nimrod, from Liverpool lying at Cork Quay, burst on Monday morning, killing two engineers and four firemen.

It is expected that Alderman Eagleton and Mr. Mechi, of Lendenhall-street, will be the sheriffs for London and Middlesex for the next year.

The fireworks intended to blaze away on the 29th in London begin already to explode, and six of our fellow-creatures lost their lives at Woolwich on Saturday by the explosion.

The proprietors at the East India House have voted the pension of 5,000*l.* to Lord Dalhousie, but not without sustaining considerable argument against it. The meeting was a stormy one.

The gross amount of duty levied on fire insurances, effected in 1855 in the United Kingdom, amounted to 1,341,242*l.*; being 30,000*l.* more than was realised in 1854.

In consequence of the strike of colliers at Glasgow, a coalowner has sold a vast mound of "sweepings" or "dross"—debris from mines usually of little or no value—at prices by which he has gained no less than 26,000*l.* after deducting 4,000*l.* which the 80,000 tons of rubbish had cost him for raising to the surface; in fact, the strike has put 30,000*l.* into his pocket!

A testimonial was on Thursday presented to Dr. Hassall, in recognition of the benefits which he has conferred on the community by his scientific labours in connexion with the subject of adulteration. Lord W. Lennox presided on the occasion, and about 100 gentlemen, comprising noblemen, members of Parliament, and others eminent in science and literature, were present.

Mr. Morgan, of the Secretary of State's office, who prosecuted last week six parents in Cheltenham for neglect of their children, addressed the bench of magistrates there, and said "he was informed by the county police superintendent that the parents were now driving their children to commit crime, in order to be educated and receive a trade in the reformatory."

The railway traffic accounts of the United Kingdom, for the six months ending the 31st December, 1855, exhibit 11,613,550*l.* as the total receipts from all sources; being 820,000*l.* more than was realised in the corresponding half-year of 1854. The passengers conveyed had increased from 61,000,000 to 67,000,000; each "class" showing an increase. The length over which the traffic was conveyed was 8,296 miles; being an extension of 243 miles since the close of 1854.

Recent robberies should be a warning to travellers who frequent hotels. A robbery similar to those for which three Americans are now in custody has been effected at the Turk's Head Hotel, Newcastle. A stranger arrived in the evening, and departed early in the morning. At a later hour two gentlemen discovered that money had been stolen from their bedrooms; they had locked the doors at eight, and the

doors were still locked when the gentlemen arose in the morning; a third door had been tried, but the occupant of the room had both locked and bolted it, and the bolt had foiled the thief.

In the Court of Common Council, on Monday, the freedom of the city, in a gold box, valued at 100 guineas, was presented to Admiral Sir E. Lyons, Bart., in testimony of the admiration of the Court of his distinguished services. Admiral Lyons, in returning thanks, said, "It had ever been his ambition to obtain the honour which he had had that day conferred upon him. He had cherished that hope from that day to this, and it was now realised. The box which had been presented to him would be handed down—it would be preserved by his children's children—as a memorial of one of the proudest and happiest days of his life. (Immense cheering.) The Admiral then left the Court with the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons, for the Mansion House, where a luncheon was prepared.

Mr. Charles Russell, deputy chairman of the Albion Life-office, and late chairman of the Great Western Railway, committed suicide on Thursday. Shortly after six o'clock in the morning, his servant, on entering his room, found him lying on his bed, in his dressing-gown, unconscious, and with two pistols by his side. Two medical men were in immediate attendance, and found him bleeding from his nose and mouth, and breathing heavily. One of the pistols had missed fire, but the ball of the other had entered the roof of the mouth, and lodged in the brain, wounding in the passage some of its blood-vessels. The wound he had inflicted upon himself was at once pronounced to be mortal; still he lingered on until two o'clock in the afternoon. The Rev. Whitworth Russell, Inspector of Prisons, who also died by his own hands, was Mr. Charles Russell's brother.

The execution of Dunne and Murphy, the murderers of Miss Hinds took place on Friday, at Cavan, and, although there was a large assemblage of persons to witness it, there was not anything like the crowds that usually congregate on such occasions. One o'clock was the hour appointed for the execution, and immediately after that time James Murphy was brought out, attended by two clergymen. He appeared fervent in prayer; and, on its being announced that all was ready, the fatal bolt was drawn and he was launched into eternity. He died almost without a struggle, the only thing observable being a quivering of the limbs. Cavan scaffold admits of only one execution taking place at a time; therefore, shortly after Murphy's body was removed, Dunne was brought from his cell, attended by four priests, and he too was earnest in prayer and most attentive to his religious duties. He died with scarcely any appearance of bodily suffering. When he had been suspended the usual time his remains were put in a coffin, and shortly afterwards delivered to his sister, immediately upon which the crowd dispersed in the most peaceful and orderly manner.

Literature.

Charges to the Clergy of the Archdeaconry of Lewes, delivered in the years 1843, 1845, 1846. By JULIUS CHARLES HARE, M.A., Archdeacon. Never before published. With an *Introduction Explanatory of his Position in the Church with reference to the Parties which Divide it*. Cambridge: Macmillan and Co.

THE Charges contained in this volume were "not published during the author's life-time, as he purposed to illustrate them by notes, bearing on the questions discussed in them, but which the pressure of other occupations prevented him from writing." They have lost something of their interest and value by this delay. The subjects have put on new phases since the lamented Hare wrote on them, ten to thirteen years since. *The Wants of the Church* cannot be discussed by any of her ministers or children now, without abandoning pretensions which, so short a time ago, even Archdeacon Hare—a man more truly catholic than all the "Evangelical party" in the Establishment—felt justified in putting forward; and the wants themselves have, to some extent, changed in nature. But Hare had foresight of conflicts and issues he did not live to see completed; as the following passage from the charge we are referring to, will show:—it is on "The Mode of the Connexion between the English Church and the State."

"This has led in divers cases to an intermixture and confusion of the offices and duties belonging to each; and one of the instances in which this confusion has prevailed, to the great detriment of the Church and of the whole nation, has been the practice of attaching civil penalties to spiritual censures. At one time this might be done without exciting much opposition: but for the last two centuries, during which the Church of Christ in England has been so grievously rent by schism, the expediency and injustice of such a combination have become more and more strongly apparent. What was admissible and might be deemed warrantable when the Church was co-extensive with the nation, became utterly unfit when a large part of the nation no longer acknowledged any allegiance to the Church. Besides, the clearer insight we gain into the true principles of jurisprudence, the more we recognise the appropriate office of the Law, and the distinct spheres of the Church and the State, the greater repugnance must we needs feel to that which confounds them: and doubtless a more or less intelligent feeling of this kind co-operated in dictating the legal enactments by which the spiritual authority of the Church has been so sadly baffled, and almost annulled."

The second of these Three Charges is on *Romanising Fallacies*: and contains at least one

ever significant passage of profound thought, on "the vulgar narrow-sightedness," which is wont to ascribe particular movements in society and the Church "mainly to the accidental character and influence of one or two individual agents:" while it is not recognised that "a change essentially similar would have taken place, even if those who [in any given case] have become its leaders had never been born." And the duty is forcibly inculcated, with respect to the new opinions and controversies of our time, of setting ourselves "calmly and deliberately to examine their origin and grounds, the circumstances, previous and contemporaneous, which have tended to breed and foster them, the laws, whether of sympathy or antagonism, by which their shape and growth have been determined, the wants which called them forth, and for which they are designed to supply a remedy." Other passages full of suggestive thought might be quoted, on such great themes (though only touched by the author in proceeding on his way,) as, the recent movement of the European mind towards Christianity as the source and ground of all well-ordered social union,—fallacies respecting Church-unity,—and the temporary character of all human institutions, however adapted to the wants of some particular condition of humanity, and the absoluteness and permanency of spiritual truths only.

The Third Charge is on *The Romanising Tendencies of the Age*:—into the scope and general bearing of which we will not attempt to enter, as we desire room for an extract, and a few isolated golden sayings.

"There is something in the speculative habits of our age that renders it easy for us to neglect facts, and even to defy them. The *prima facie* evidence of facts has been proved in so many respects to be fallacious; why should we hesitate to assume that it must be so in all things. So many prejudices have been overthrown, so many prepossessions, which seemed to be as firmly rooted as the hills, have been assailed in the train of arguments, and exploded, that it has become a sort of sport for the ingenious to show their dexterity by trying to blow up some new article of the popular faith. But no men are surer to fall into their own snares, and to perish by their own devices, than they who play tricks with their conscience, and amuse themselves by showing off their subtlety at the cost of truth. If we forsake truth, truth will forsake us, and we cannot recall her. We may cry to her, but she will not hear us: we may pursue her, but our feet will stumble every moment entangled in our own meshes."

"[In controversy with our brethren] our conclusion may be the right one, and *theirs* may be very erroneous; yet the way to refute it will not be by imputing it to the obliquity of moral vision, but by explaining how it proceeds from obliquity, or indistinctness of intellectual vision."

"[Often] 'while the depths of our will lie stagnant, the water at the surface, our wilfulness, is fluttered and in commotion.'"

"[There is] 'a wanton recklessness with which our divines in these days play at nine pins, so to say, with truths,—setting them up to display their skill in knocking them down.'"

"Reason will overcome Rationalism; but nothing else will; the right use of reason will overpower the abuse of reason; Reason working in union with Faith will conquer Reason working without and against Faith."

"The march of thought, in all its regions, is progressive; the human cannot walk crabwise; we cannot pare down our stature, and put on the worn-out, cast-off clothes of former years. We cannot rise above our philosophy by taking up the horn-book again."

"To restore a sound balance when it has once been lost, may indeed be difficult for a student in a college, where all his pursuits make him attach an exclusive value to what is intellectual and historical. But for you, my brethren, this is much less difficult. So far as outward helps go, you have everything. The devotion to your parochial duties, the intercourse with the poor, the manifold struggles you will have to wage with unbelief and other forms of sin, must bring you, if you do give yourselves heartily to your work, to see that there are other things in Christianity beside that which is ecclesiastical and historical, that there are far mightier powers, the Gospel of mercy, and the Spirit of grace and truth, that it is with these Divine realities that we have to deal, that by the help of these we can fight against sin and conquer it, both in ourselves and in others, but that without these we are nothing."

The Introduction, "explanatory of Archdeacon Hare's position in the Church," embodies some interesting reminiscences of Hare as a College tutor at Cambridge, which assist an understanding of his character and influence; and contains some important remarks on "the parties which divide the Church." The author writes with reference specially to Mr. Conybeare's classification of Church parties, and of Hare with that party on which he has bestowed the title *Broad Church*. The writer objects that the meaning of this phrase—"a new nickname eagerly welcomed by hunsdreds"—is "anything but clear and definite;" and maintains that "Hare's claims to be a *Broad Churchman*, in any of the senses which that name has been supposed to bear, were more than questionable,"—that "he was national," and that he did "justice to the deepest and strongest conviction of each school in the Church, while he fought with the tempers in each, which were weakening it and keeping them asunder,"—that "he believed that every party triumph is an injury to the whole Church, and an especial

injury to the party which wins the triumph." Of Mr. Hare's *theology* he says:—

"He highly prized all distinctions which were not the inventions of the schools, but had their ground in the being of man and in the relation of man to his Creator. The distinction of the flesh and of the Spirit, of the Law which condemns and of the Gospel which speaks freedom and peace, of the man according to the law of death and the man according to the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus—these are the subtlest which divinity presents to us. The materialist laughs at them, the mere intellectual man thinks they have nothing to do with practice, and at all events must not be presented to the multitude. But seeing they belong not to books and to formulas, but to man, he found in these the deliverance at once from materialism and from technicalities; he held that every beggar has an interest in them, and that the Spirit of God would teach every beggar to apprehend them. In *this* theology he believed there lies the best prospect for the illumination of all our faculties, as well as the ground-work of a true human morality, not depending on accidents of times and seasons—not receiving its shape from circumstances, but compelling circumstances to receive their shape from it. The Lutheran doctrine may not be all that we need; it may concern our personal life more than our life as portions of a commonwealth; it may appear to interfere with the unity of the body, by the immense work with which it invests each member of the body. But Mr. Hare was convinced that if we lose it, we lose all hope of rising to a higher level, we must certainly sink to a lower one; that though Christ may be proclaimed in it only as the emancipator of the individual conscience, He is implicitly recognised in it as the centre of the whole fellowship in heaven and earth. . . . In no discourse, though they may profess ever so much exclusive orthodoxy, are the persons of the Father, the Son, and the Spirit, and their essential unity, more constantly assumed as the foundation of moral order and of Christian love.

We know nothing of the authorship of the Introduction to this volume; on internal evidence we should attribute it to the Rev. F. D. Maurice, perhaps; but this is mere conjecture. It contains a few things that we do not clearly comprehend; and some of its matter seems to us not to have weight proportionate to its extent. In the Charges, also, are many things to which we, as Dissenters, might take exception. But the book need offend none, and may richly profit all.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

- Memoirs of Dr. John Kitto. Oliphant and Sons.
 Wardlaw's Life and Correspondence. A. and C. Black.
 Bunson's Signs of the Times. Smith, Elder, and Co.
 Essays on English Poets. Macmillan and Co.
 Creation and the Fall. Constable and Co.
 Kirby and Spencer's Entomology. Longman and Co.
 Memoirs of James Montgomery. Vol. V. Ibid.
 Ditto ditto Vol. VI. Ibid.
 The Pleasures of Home. Hall, Virtue, and Co.
 Gossaga di Cappel. Longman and Co.
 The Illustrated Webster Spelling-book. Ward and Lock.
 Missionary Reminiscences. Houlston and Stoneman.
 The Panorama. Ticknor and Co.
 Ben Jonson. J. W. Parker and Son.
 The Pilgrim's Oasis. D. F. Oakley.
 Newton's Sermons. Partridge and Co.
 Baird on Liturgies. Knight and Son.
 Hours of Thought. Ward and Co.
 Annie Foster. Religious Tract Society.
 Adams's Geographical Word-Expositor. Longman and Co.
 I Too. By Beelzebub. E. T. Hamblin.
 English Peasant Girl. Religious Tract Society.
 The King's Own. Routledge and Co.
 Pleasant Mornings at the British Museum. Religious Tract Society.
 June. Longman and Co.
 The Marchioness of Brinvilliers. Routledge and Co.
 Anecdotes of Dr. Johnson. Part I. Longman and Co.
 Ditto Part II. Ibid.
 A Meditation on Psalm LI. Partridge and Co.
 I Believe in the Holy Ghost. Ibid.
 Punsyism. Ibid.
 Popular Tales by Mrs. Hall. Lambert and Co.
 Sermons on the First Epistle of Peter. Partridge and Co.
 Passing Thoughts. Constable and Co.

Cleanings.

The original MS. of Scott's "Kenilworth" has been deposited in the British Museum.

A notice, in a respectable shop window, in a leading street in Liverpool, reads thus: "2 B. Lett ah oue."

Why is an elephant unlike a tree?—Because a tree leaves in the spring, and the elephant leaves when the menagerie does.

A German writer says that the people of the United States burst more steam boilers, and chew more tobacco, than any other five nations on the globe.

A native of Africa who had visited England a few years ago, when asked what ice was, said "Him be water fast asleep," and of the railway locomotive he said, "Him be one thunder-mill."

At a Railway Station, as two countrymen were examining a time-table, the following conversation was overheard: "Bill, what is the meaning of A.M. and P.M. at the top?" The other replied, "Why,

don't you know? A.M. means a half-penny a mile, and P.M. means a penny a mile."

The Board of Inland Revenue have decided that home-made wines are fermented liquors, and can only be legally sold by the authority of an excise license.

An editor one day inquired of Alderman B— what he thought of his journal. "I like it all," was the reply, "but its broken English." The editor started, and asked for an explanation. "Why, the list of bankrupts to be sure."

A lady wrote a long and lamentable letter to Talleyrand, apprising him of the death of her husband, and courting consolation. He simply replied, "Alas! Madame!—Yours affectionately," &c. In twelve months more she wrote again, to say she was once more married. His answer was—"Oh, oh! Madame!—Yours affectionately," &c.

The employers of a carman make honourable mention in the *Times* of the kindly and generous behaviour of "a gentleman." The carman picked up a check on the Bank of England for 200*l.*; he took it to his employers, and they directed him to take it to the drawer. That person remarked that "he was sure his pocket had been picked of it"; "however," he gave the carman a shilling.

A country clergyman, who was in the habit of preaching almost to empty benches, during one of his sermons observed a flock of geese entering the house, whereupon he remarked, "that his district were not so much at fault as he expected, for he had ocular demonstration before him, that when they were not inclined to attend themselves, they sent their representatives."

A lawyer, says the *Berwick Advertiser* lately pleading in a Sheriff Court in a case of right of way, thus addressed the Bench: "My lord, the road in question is of no use whatever: indeed, it is rather a nuisance, as it is only frequented by black-guard boys and profligate young men and women; I know the road.—Sheriff: You have walked the road?—Lawyer: A hundred times!—Sheriff: You give yourself a bad character. (Laughter.)"

The accounts of the Reform Club afford some insight into the business of hotel-keeping. The annual receipts amount to 15,346*l.*, from 1,238 members. The capital account is 96,000*l.*, equal to an annual rent of 4,800*l.* Ground rent, 1,000*l.*, and taxes, 850*l.* Mere repairs are yearly 900*l.*, whereof kettle tinkering is 70*l.* Fuel is 644*l.*, light 932*l.* Washing figures, 560*l.*, chimney sweeps, 25*l.*, brushes, 54*l.* Annual breakage of glass, &c., 328*l.*; wear of linen, 363*l.* Ice is 108*l.*, "snuff and tooth-picks 72*l.*," winding clocks, 45*l.*, playing-cards 80*l.* The stock of cigars appears to reach 930*l.* The stock of wine is only 2,491*l.*, and the profit yearly on sales 500*l.* That such a trifling service as cleaning windows should cost 10*s.* per week will give some idea of the heavy costs of a large establishment in the most insignificant items. Snuff and toothpicks cost about 1*s.* 2*d.* per member per annum. Considering that gamblers seldom play twice with the same pack of cards, the small amount of 80*l.* for cards show the amount of gambling is very small in the club.

BIRTHS.

May 14, the wife of the Rev. B. COPELAND ETHERIDGE, of Ramsgate, of a son.

May 15, at 13, Beckford-row, Walworth, Mrs. CHARLES JAMES CHURCHES, of a son.

May 16, the wife of the Rev. E. H. WEEKS, of Queen's-park, Manchester, of a daughter.

May 19, at 28, Abingdon-villas, Kensington, the wife of the Rev. A. D. SALMON, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

May 12, at the Independent Chapel, Castle-street, Great Torrington, Devon, by the Rev. James Buckpit, Mr. JOHN BRAGO, yeoman, to Miss MARY JANE SNELL WEBBER, both of Highbickington, Devon.

May 13, at the Church of St. Michael-le-Belfrey, in York, by the Rev. Thomas Richardson, Vicar of Bugthorpe, Wm. WOOD, Esq., B.A., Jesus College, Cambridge, youngest son of JOHN WOOD, Esq., of York, to ISABEL ELIZA, only surviving child of the late LEONARD METCALFE, Esq., of Keighley, Yorkshire.

May 15, at Lindfield Chapel, by the Rev. J. E. Judson, Mr. PHILIP KENWARD, of Lindfield, to LUCY, youngest daughter of the late Mr. PHILIP KANETT, of West Grinstead, Sussex.

May 16, at the Independent Chapel, Isle of Portland, by the Rev. James Cheney, Mr. CHARLES WAT, to Miss ELIZABETH RICE STONE, both of Portland.

May 17, at Harley-street Chapel, Bow, by the Rev. S. Davis, Wm. HENRY HUTCHINSON, to ANNIE, eldest daughter of JOSIAH WOODHAMS, Esq., of Bromley, Middlesex.

May 17, at St. Peter's Church, Eaton-square, Mr. JUSTICE WILLES, to the daughter of the late T. JENNINGS, Esq., of Cork.

May 19, at Elmore-lane Chapel, Rugeley, by the Rev. E. Johns, assisted by the Rev. W. G. Hillman, Mr. JOHN SHELLEY, to Miss ALICE COPE, both of Blythebury, Staffordshire.

DEATHS.

Feb. 10, in his passage on board the Monarch, from Calcutta to England, Major-General Sir Wm. HENRY SLEEMAN, K.C.B., in the sixty-eighth year of his age.

May 11, at Bradford, Yorkshire, Mr. SAMUEL LORD, formerly a merchant in Leeds, aged sixty-seven.

May 12, at Chess, Surrey, SUSANNA, widow of Wm. GRIFFIN, in her eighty-third year.

May 13, at her residence, 88, Walcot-place, Lambeth, universally beloved and lamented, and in perfect peace, ANN, widow of the late JOHN BAINBRIDGE, Esq., in her eighty-fourth year.

May 13, at his residence, Norfolk-road, St. John's-wood, London, ROBERT AULD, Esq., in his eighty-sixth year.

May 14, at Bayswater, the Rev. JOSEPH SCRIVELLE, A.M., aged ninety-four.

May 15, at his residence, Golden-hill, Longton, Staffordshire, JOHN KIRK KNIGHT, Esq., for many years a consistent member, useful deacon, and liberal supporter of the Independent Church, Longton, aged sixty-seven.

May 15, at Wickhambrook, NATHANIEL HERBERT, son of the Rev. HENRY COLEMAN, aged one year and eight months.

May 17, at his seat, Walhampton, Lymington, Hants, the Rev. Sir GEORGE BURBARD, Bart., brother of the late Admiral Sir HARRY BURBARD NEALE, Bart., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., in his eighty-eighth year.

May 19, at Babbington Cottage, near Nottingham, SARAH, relict of the late Mr. Alderman BARNES, of that town, in her eighty-first year.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

On Monday, the conclusion of the loan transaction was followed by a rise of $\frac{1}{2}$ in Consols, which opened with renewed buoyancy this morning. Some considerable sales in realisation of profits ensuing, a reaction of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. took place, but at the close the feeling was again firm, and the latest quotations were equal to those of yesterday. In general character the market remains good. A very favourable impression has been produced by the Budget. The steady influx of gold, coupled with the prospect of diminished exports of the precious metal, is also hopefully regarded. In the discount market there was a full supply of money this afternoon, owing partly to the release of the surplus deposits on the loan. The scrip of the new loan rose this morning to 2 to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ prem., and left off at 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ premium.

There has been a limited business transacted in Foreign Securities at a slight advance. A moderate business has been done in Railway Shares this morning, at improved rates. The Foreign and Colonial Lines have also been in good demand. Joint Stock Bank and Miscellaneous Shares have been moderately dealt in.

There was a numerous attendance of capitalists at the Treasury on Monday morning, respecting the new loan of 5,000,000*l.* They were received by Lord Palmerston, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr. Wilson. In answer to questions from Baron Rothschild, the Chancellor of the Exchequer repeated that Government had no intention of issuing Exchequer-bills, and that Government had decided not to fund at present. He also stated that notice as to the rate of interest would be shortly given. Baron Rothschild then tendered for the loan at the rate of 108 $\frac{1}{2}$, equal to nearly 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ Consols for every 100*l.* sterling. The Government *minimum* terms were 107 $\frac{1}{2}$ 10*s.* 7*d.*, or Consols at 93, which were eventually accepted by Baron Rothschild.

The total value of last week's arrivals of specie was about £716,000*l.* The exports, exclusive of a large sum taken out to the East on Government account, amounted to 104,000*l.* Gold has been sent to the Continent, and large quantities of silver continue to be drawn from the Continent for trans-shipment to India. About 200,000*l.* of the late gold arrivals is understood to have been sold to the Bank on Monday, and 80,000*l.* more to-day.

The trade reports from the manufacturing towns for the past week show a considerable interruption of business from the Whitsuntide holidays, which, owing to the prosperity of the people, have been generally kept in all quarters. At Manchester the transactions have been limited, and the tendency of prices has been towards firmness. The Birmingham iron-market is steadily maintained, since, although the supply of fresh orders has been small, manufacturers are fully engaged on previous contracts. In the general occupations of the place there are symptoms of improvement. At Nottingham a good inquiry has prevailed both for hosiery and lace. In the woollen districts increased caution is manifested, owing to the high price of the raw material. From the Irish linen-markets the accounts continue very favourable. At Dublin the provision trade has been influenced by large arrivals from America.

The departures from the port of London for the Australian colonies during the past week comprised seven vessels—three to Port Phillip, one to Adelaide, one to Sydney, one to Hobart Town, and one to Launceston—with an aggregate capacity of 5,324 tons. The rates of freight in some cases exhibit a tendency to increased firmness.

PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per Ct. Consols	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 $\frac{1}{2}$
Consols for Account	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 per Cent. Red.	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$
New 3 per Cent. Annuities	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$
India Stock	—	—	—	—	—	230
Bank Stock	211 12	212 11	212 13	—	214	215
Exchequer-bills	5 dis	4 dis	7 dis	10 dis	3 dis	2 dis
India Bonds	4 dis	5 dis	—	—	4 dis	—
Long Annuities	—	—	—	—	—	—

The Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, c. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 10th day of May, 1856.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£33,533,830	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities	3,459,500
		Gold Coin & Bullion	9,184,833
		Silver Bullion	—
	£33,533,830		£33,533,830

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital £14,552,000	Government Securities (including Dead Weight Annuity) £12,662,652
Reserve 3,233,367	Other Securities 15,297,277
Public Deposits 3,033,568	Notes 3,690,990
Other Deposits 10,613,914	Gold and Silver Coin 619,762
Seven Day and other Bills 836,812	
	£32,270,681

May 15, 1856. M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Friday, May 16, 1856.

BANKRUPT.

THALASSO, E., Bury-court, St. Mary-axe, merchant, May 27, June 24; solicitors, Messrs. Lawrance and Co., Old Jewry-chambers, City.

SCHOLLINGER, W. F., Gracechurch-street, City, tavern keeper, May 24, June 27; solicitor, Mr. Stopher, Cheap-side.

BAILLIE, T., Old Jewry-chambers, City, civil engineer, May 24, June 27; solicitor, Mr. Marshall, Sion College-gardens, London-wall.

Wise, M., St. Martin's-court, Ludgate-hill, fishmonger, May 30. June 27; solicitor, Mr. Broughton, Falcon-square.
LAMB, J., Liverpool, dyer, May 23, June 23; solicitors, Messrs. Anderson and Collins, Liverpool.
SMITH, G., M'LAUREN, J., and BLACKBURN, W., Liverpool, tailors, May 29, June 19; solicitor, Mr. Banner, Liverpool.

Tuesday, May 20, 1856.

BANKRUPT.

STUART, H., and KENNETH, R., Cork-street, Burlington-gardens, tailors, June 3, July 1; solicitor, Mr. Richards, Warwick-street, Regent-street.
ERSWELL, C., Saffron Walden, Essex, builder, June 3, July 1; solicitors, Mr. Markby, Whitehall-place, Westminster; and Mr. Collin, Saffron Walden.
GUIDICI, A. E., St. Mary-axe, City, merchant, June 3, July 1; solicitors, Messrs. Linklater and Co., Sles-lane, Bucklersbury.
LUNDIE, R. S., Long-acre, wood engraver, May 31, June 25; solicitors, Messrs. White and Cole, Martin's-lane, Cannon-street.
HAWTHORN, B., Lisle-street, Leicester-square, and St. Paul's-place, Wandsworth-road, shoe maker, May 28, July 2; solicitors, Messrs. Laurence and Co., Broad-street, City.
BLACKWELL, J. H., and BENNETT, G., Smethwick, Staffordshire, ironmasters, June 2 and 23; solicitors, Messrs. Bourne and Co., Dudley; and Mr. James, Birmingham.
DAVIES, J., Shrewsbury, printer, June 5 and 26; solicitors, Mr. Wace, Shrewsbury; and Messrs. Mottram and Knight, Birmingham.
JOHNSON, R., York, furniture broker, June 3 and 24; solicitors, Mr. Walker, York; and Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds.
BINNS, G., Cleckheaton, Yorkshire, cloth manufacturer, June 5, July 4; solicitors, Mr. Jackson, Cleckheaton; and Messrs. Cariss and Cudworth, Leeds.
BRADSHAW, C., Manchester, licensed victualler, June 3 and 26; solicitors, Messrs. Cobbett and Wheeler, Manchester.

Markets.

COEN EXCHANGE, London, Monday, May 19.

The arrivals of English wheat by railway, and the quantity coastwise at market this morning were liberal, but met with a fair sale at 1s to 2s per quarter under last Monday's prices. Foreign wheat was taken off in retail at barely the quotations of Monday last. Ship flour dull and 1s per sack lower, but for finest American barrels there was more inquiry at previous rates. In barley less doing, and we reduce our quotations 1s per quarter. Beans and peas firm. The supply of oats was moderate, and fine fresh corn sold readily at last week's prices. Linseed and cakes without alteration.

BRITISH.		FOREIGN.	
Wheat—		Wheat—	
Essex and Kent, Red	64 to 68	Danish	78 to 88
Do White	70 74	Konigsberg, Red	78 80
Lincoln, Norfolk, and		Pomeranian, Red	68 80
Yorkshire Red		Do White	68 80
Scotch	64 68	Danish and Holstein	68 72
Eye	42 44	East Prussian	68 72
Barley malting (new)	38 42	Petersburg	54 66
Distilling	36 37	Biga and Archangel	—
Malt (pale)	76 78	Polish Odessa	56 60
Beans, Mazagan	36 42	Marianopol	74 76
Ticks	—	Taganrog	—
Harrow	—	Egyptian	40 42
Pigeon	—	American (U.S.)	68 75
Peas, White	36 38	Barley, Pomeranian	36 37
Grey	36 38	Konigsberg	—
Maple	36 38	Danish	36 38
Boilers	38 40	East Prussian	28 30
Tares (English)	28 30	Egyptian	28 30
Foreign	26 44	Odessa	28 30
Oats (English feed)	20 21	Beans—	
Flour, town made, per		Horse	34 36
Sack of 280 lbs.	60 62	Pigeon	38 40
Linseed, English	28 30	Egyptian	28 30
Baltic	48 50	Peas, White	38 41
Black Sea	50 52	Oats—	
Hempseed	50 52	Dutch	19 24
Canaryseed	54 60	Jahde	19 24
Cloverseed, per cwt. of		Danish	16 21
112 lbs. English	—	Danish, Yellow feed	19 24
German	—	Swedish	28 33
French	—	Petersburg	22 23
American	—	Flour, per bar. of 108 lbs.	
Linseed Cakes, 154 lbs to 161 lbs		New York	30 38
Rape Cakes, 61 lbs to 71 lbs per ton		Spanish, per sack	52 54
Rapeseed, 40 lbs to 42 lbs per last		Carawayseed	36 40

SEEDS, London, Monday, May 19.—The inquiry for parcels of red cloverseed, for holding over, continues; but the limited stocks and high values required by holders prevent any extent of business; where, however, parcels have changed hands, an advance of 2s to 3s on the lowest values has been obtained. Trefoils are also inquired for, but white cloverseed meets little attention.

BREAD.—The prices of wheat bread in the metropolises are from 9d to 10d; of household ditto, 8d to 9d per 4 lbs loaf.

BUTCHERS' MEAT, LONDON, Monday, May 19.

There was a very poor show of foreign stock in to-day's market as to number, but its quality was tolerably good. Compared with Monday last, the supply of beasts fresh up from our own grazing districts was limited. However, nearly the whole of the stock was in excellent condition. The attendance of buyers was good, and the beef trade ruled brisk, at an advance in the quotations of fully 2d per cwt. The general top figure for beef was 4s 4d, but some very prime Scots realized 4s 10d per cwt. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, we received 1,700 Scots and short-horns; from other parts of England, 250 of various breeds; from Scotland, 300 Scots; and from Ireland, 28 oxen. We had a very short supply of sheep in the market, and the quality of most kinds was by no means first-rate. The mutton trade was very brisk, and the quotations ruled from 4d to fully 6d per cwt above those realized on this day's sale. Downs in the wool sold as high as 5s 10d, out of the wool, 5s 4d per cwt. More than three-fourths of the sheep were out of the wool. The supply of lambs was but moderate. The lamb trade was steady, at last week's quotations. The top price 6s 4d per cwt. About 400 head came to hand from the Isle of Wight. We had an improved demand for calves, at 2d per cwt more money. The best veal realized 5s 6d per cwt. There was very little inquiry for pigs, yet prices were well supported.

Per cwt. to sink the calf.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5.		1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	
Inf. coarse beasts	2 3 to 3 6	Pr. carnosuoid	4 10 to 5 4
Second quality	3 8 to 3 10	Pr. Southdown	5 6 to 5 10
Prime large oxen	4 0 to 4 4	Lgn. coarse calves	4 0 to 4 10
Prime Scots, &c.	4 6 to 4 8	Pr. small	3 0 to 3 6
Coarse inf. sheep	4 0 to 4 2	Large hogs	3 4 to 4 8
Second quality	4 4 to 4 8	Meat sm. porkers	4 4 to 4 8
Lambs	5s 4d to 6s 4d		

Suckling calves, 22s to 26s; and quarter old store pigs, 21s to 27s each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, May 19.

The supplies of both town and country-killed meat on sale here to-day were moderate. Generally speaking, the demand ruled steady, and prices were supported.

Per cwt. by the cart ave.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5.		1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	
Inferior beef	3s 6d to 3s 8d	Inf. mutton	3s 2d to 3s 4d
Middling ditto	3s 8d to 3s 10d	Middling ditto	3s 4d to 3s 6d
Prime large	3s 10d to 4s 0d	Prime ditto	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Do. small	4s 0d to 4s 2d	Veal	3s 10d to 4s 0d
Large pork	3s 2d to 3s 4d	Small pork	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Lamb	4s 4d to 5s 10d		

PRODUCE MARKET, MESSING-LANE, MAY 20.

SEED.—The market opened with a quiet appearance to-day, but the firmness of holders prevented any decline. 500 hhds only of West India sold, about half of which consisted of Bar-

bahees in public sale, from 40s 6d to 44s. 16,000 bags Manilla were offered in public sale; about one-fourth was bought in, the remainder sold at 37s 6d to 45s; crystallized, 45s 6d to 49s. 500 bags Bengal sold at 44s to 46s. 7,500 bags Madras were also offered, and about 6,000 found buyers; common, 35s 6d to 40s; superior, 43s to 45s. A cargo of Havannah reported sold, but the particulars have not transpired. The refined market steady; lumps, 53s to 56s.

CORNS.—450 sacks and 700 bags of plantation Ceylon were offered; a large portion was bought in; the remainder sold heavily at prices which scarcely supported previous rates, 53s to 63s 6d.

TEA.—The public sales declared for to-morrow (Wednesday) have occupied the attention of the trade to-day.

RICE.—5,000 bags of common Madras sold in public sale at previous rates, 7s 6d to 8s 6d. 200 tons Moengha sold by private contract at 7s 6d.

In other articles no material alteration. Markets generally have been inactive to-day.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday, May 19.—The weather was unsettled, and there was a heavy fall of rain all last week. The dealings in Irish butter were few and unimportant. Some small quantities were sold of Kilmish at 10s 4d, Ennis 10s 4d, fourth Corks at 10s 4d to 10s 6d, and for next arrivals at 10s 6d per cwt. Foreign was nearly all cleared off at 9s 4d to 11s 4d. In bacon, business to a respectable extent was done in Irish single sides at 7s to 7s 6d, landed and for shipment at 7s to 7s 6d on board. American middles were freely saleable at 5s 4d to 5s 6d, and partially for select quality at 1s to 2s more. But the dealers expect lower rates in consequence of the large arrivals at Liverpool. Hams were scarce and wanted, at prices varying from 7s 4d to 8s 4d, according to size and quality. Lard was in fair demand. Prime Irish bladdered at 7s to 7s 6d, Kops 6s 4d to 6s 6d; American refined at 5s 4d to 5s 6d.

PRICES OF BUTTER, CHEESE, HAMS, &c.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5.		1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	
Friesland, per cwt.	102 to 112	Cheshire per cwt.	70 to 84
Kiel	112 116	Cheddar	74 86
Dorset	110 114	Double Gloucester	66 72
Carlisle	106 108	Single ditto	60 70
Waterford	—	York Hams	80 88
Cork (new)	110 112	Westmoreland ditto	80 84
Limerick	98 104	Irish ditto	76 84
Sligo	—	Wiltshire Bacon (dried)	74 80
Fresh, per dozen	12 14	Irish (green)	70 72

POTATOES, BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, May 19.—For the time of year, the arrivals of potatoes last week, coastwise and by land-carriage, were rather extensive, and in excellent condition. The trade is heavy, and prices are barely supported. York regents, 5s to 5s 6d; Kent and Essex do, 5s to 5s 6d; Scotch ditto, 5s to 5s 6d; ditto reds, 5s to 4s 6d per ton.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, May 19.—During the past week there has been a steady trade, and prices have been well supported, at fully late rates.

WOOL, CRY, Monday, May 19.—The advanced quotations have been fully maintained, and the attendance of buyers continues numerous. Owing to the firmness shown in the biddings at the Colonial wool sales, the English market has become much firmer, and we have very few sellers at present rates. Our impression is, seeing that a large portion of the Colonial wool has been taken for France, that English qualities will rule higher, especially as there is no increase in the supply.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5.		1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	
Down tags	—	Down tags	—
Down ewes	—	Down ewes	—
Half-bred hogs	—	Half-bred hogs	—
Half-bred wethers	—	Half-bred wethers	—
Kent fleeces, mixed hog and ewes	—	Kent fleeces, mixed hog and ewes	—
Combining skin	—	Combining skin	—
Leicester fleeces	—	Leicester fleeces	—
Flannel wool	—	Flannel wool	—
Blanket wool	—	Blanket wool	—

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c.—We have to notice a slight improvement in the demand for flax, at fully late week's prices. There is more doing in Russian and other hemp, at full quotations. Jute and coir goods are steady, but not doing.

TALLOW, Monday, May 19.—Our market is steady, and prices are well supported. P.Y.C. on the spot is quoted at 40s, and for the last three months 45s 9d per cwt. Town tallow, 50s per cwt, nett cash. Rough fat, 3s 6d per cwt.

PARTICULARS.

1852. 1853. 1854. 1855. 1856.		1852. 1853. 1854. 1855. 1856.	
Stock	—	Casks	—
Price of Yellow Candle	—	to do	—
Delivery last Week	—	to do	—
Ditto from the 1st of June	—	to do	—
Arrived last Week	—	to do	—
Ditto from the 1st of June	—	to do	—
Price of Town Tallow	—	to do	—

OILS, Monday, May 19.—Linseed oil on the spot is worth 31s to 31s 6d per cwt; all other oils are dull in sale. Spermac may be purchased at 118s to 119s; pale seal, 50s to 52s; pale rape, 48s 6d to 49s 6d; brown ditto, 45s 6d to 46s; and palm, 36s 6d to 38s 6d. Turpentine is unaltered. In tar very little is doing.

HIDE AND SKIN MARKETS, Saturday, May 17.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5.		1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	
Market Hides, 54 to 64 lbs.	—	to do	—
Ditto	64 72 lbs.	to do	—
Ditto	72 80 lbs.	to do	—
Ditto	80 88 lbs.	to do	—
Ditto	88 96 lbs.	to do	—
Ditto	96 104 lbs.	to do	—
Horse Hides	—	to do	—
Calf Skins, light	—	to do	—
Ditto full	—	to do	—
Polled Sheep	—	to do	—
Kents and Half Breeds	—	to do	—
Downs	—	to do	—
Lambs	—	to do	—
Shearings	—	to do	—

COALS, Monday.—Owing to the short supply, factors succeeded in realizing an advance on last day's sale. Haswell, 12s—Hutton, 12s—Kelloe, 12s—Hagthill, 12s—Garforth, 12s—Riddell's, 12s—Hartley's, 12s. Fresh arrivals, 27.

COTTON, LIVERPOOL, May 20.—The market closed heavily, and, compared with Friday's rates, there is little or no change to report. Americans under 3d per lb are the qualities most pressed for sale. The transactions to-day are estimated between 3,000 and 4,000 bales, 300 of which are taken for export. The sales comprise 100 Bahia, at 6d to 7d; and 500 Surat, at 4d to 5d per lb. 40,000 bales imported since Thursday.

Advertisements.

TO GROCERS.—WANTED, a genuine GROCERY BUSINESS, returning from Ten to Twelve Thousand Pounds per annum.

Apply to Mr. James Joslin, Valuer of Drapery and Grocery Stocks, Malden, Essex.

TO GROCERS and DRAPERS.—

WANTED, a GENERAL DRAPERY and GROCERY BUSINESS, returning from four to five thousand pounds per annum.

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TO DRAPERS.—WANTED, a genuine

DRAPERY BUSINESS. The premises must be substantial and well situated, with a good garden. Stock and fixtures about 5 thousand pounds.

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TO GROCERS, &c.—TO BE DISPOSED OF, on the South Coast, a respectable GROCERY BUSINESS, and Furnished Lodging-house combined. The premises are eligibly situated, and command a delightful view of the sea. Apply to Mr. James Joslin, Valuer of Drapery and Grocery Stocks, Malden, Essex.

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IMMEDIATELY, a SENIOR HAND, of thorough business habits, good temper, and address, and well acquainted with a respectable country trade.

Apply, stating age, salary, and references, to Mr. James Joslin, Valuer of Drapery and Grocery Stocks, Malden, Essex.

TONIC SOL-FA ASSOCIATION.

TWO AGGREGATE PSALMODY MEETINGS OF PUPILS and CLASSES taught on this Method, will be held in FINEBURY CHAPEL. The first on Tuesday Evening, May 27, when the Rev. JAMES SPENCE, of the Pearly Chapel, will take the Chair; the second on Wednesday Evening, June 4, when the Rev. THOS. THOMESBY, of Spa-fields Chapel, will take the Chair. Both Meetings to commence at Half-past Seven. The Choirs will consist of about 1,000 voices.

In order to the proper enjoyment of these services, all persons attending them should be provided with the Book of Words to be sung, which may be had, price 3d., at Messrs. Ward and Co., Paternoster-row; and at the Chapel.

UNITED KINGDOM ALLIANCE for

the TOTAL SUPPRESSION of the LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

PRESIDENT.—Sir WALTER C. TREVELYAN, Bart.

A PUBLIC MEETING, under the auspices of the Alliance, will be held on MONDAY, May 23, 1856, in EXETER HALL, LONDON.

The Chair will be taken at Half-past Six, by Alderman Sir R. W. GARDEN, J.P.

The Meeting will be addressed by Right Hon. Earl of Harrington, K.C.B.; Rev. James Bardley, M.A., Manchester; Samuel Bowry, Esq., Gloucester; Samuel Pope, Esq., Manchester; Honorary Secretary of the Alliance; and other distinguished supporters of the movement, whose names will be hereafter announced.

Members of the Alliance admitted on showing their Cards of Membership. Members of Council will occupy the Platform. Tickets of Admission, Free, may be obtained at Twopenny's, 235, Strand; Cash's, 5, Bishopsgate-street Without; Harrell's, 492, New Oxford-street; Bulmer's, Aldine Chambers, Paternoster-row; Gulliver's, Cumberland Market, Regent's-park; Shirley's Alliance Hotel, Hanover-street, Long-acre, &c.; and from the Offices of the Alliance, 41, John Dalton-street, Manchester.

Now ready, price 1s.

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are only to be had at WATTS'S, 254, Strand, price 15s.

SNOW AND SUGAR-CURED SPANISH HAMS.

7d. and 8d. per pound.

GEO. OSBORNE respectfully informs his

kind friends and patrons, and those who are fond of "VIANDES DELICIEUSES" that he has just received a large consignment of the above HAMS, in splendid condition, and he respectfully solicits an early inspection of them. For standard quality and purity of flavour, G. Osborne has no hesitation in stating that they cannot be surpassed.

Also, WESTPHALIA and BRUNSWICK HAMS, 2d. and 3d. per lb.

Osborne's noted PEAT-SMOKED BACON, 3d. and 4d. per lb.

by the half-side, Good CHEESE, from 6d. to 1s. and 1s. 6d. per lb.

Other Provisions equally moderate, and PACKAGES GRATIS.

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CABINET and UPHOLSTERY FURNI-

TURE usually sold as cheap is worthless; the really good is cheap, and may be had at moderate prices, at the WARE-

HOUSE FURNITURE MANUFACTORY. A well selected stock always on hand.

M. H. CHAFFIN (late Darley and Company),

66 and 67, Old Broad-street, London,

Close to the Princess's Theatre. Established 1820.

TRELOAR'S COCOA-NUT FIBRE

MATTING and DOOR MATS.—T. TRELOAR has much

pleasure in stating that the Jurors of the Paris Universal Ex-

hibition have awarded him the Prize Medal for Cocoa-nut Fibre

Manufactures.—Catalogues, containing prices and every par-

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BLOOMSBURY, SURGEON-DENTIST, by appointment,

to the Westminster Dispensary, supplies ARTIFICIAL TEETH

of the best construction, fixed without pain, from 10s. 6d.; an

upper or lower set ditto, from 2l. Stopping in a superior manner,

5s.; scaling, 5s.

TEETH.—By Her Majesty's Royal Letters

FLOUR WARRANTED FREE FROM ADULTERATION, and delivered to any part of London (not less than one peck) carriage free.—Whites for pastry, per bushel (56lb.), 12s. 4d.; Fine Households, recommended for bread-making, 11s. 8d.; Seconds, 11s. 0d.; Wheat Meal, for brown bread, 11s. 0d.; Best Coarse and Fine Scotch Oatmeal.

Address, HORSNAILL and CATCHPOOL, Bullford Mill, Witham, Essex; or Caledonian-road, Islington. Directions for making bread supplied gratis.

MARKING LINEN MADE EASY.—The **PEN SUPERSEDED.**—The most easy, permanent, and best method of MARKING LINEN, Silk, Cotton, Course Towels, Stockings, Books, or anything else, is with the **PATENT ELECTRO SILVER PLATES.** By means of this novel invention a thousand articles can be marked in one hour. Any person can easily use them. Initial Plate, 1s.; Name Plate, 2s.; Set of Numbers, 2s.; Crest Plate, 5s. Sent free to any part of the kingdom (on receipt of stamps), by the inventor and sole patentee, T. CULLETON, Heraldic Engraver to the Queen and Royal Family, 2, Long-acre, one door from St. Martin's-lane. Caution.—N.B.—To prevent imposition it is necessary to write down the address.

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Elastic Allied Front fastening Bodice, 3s. 11d., 7s. 6d., and 12s. 6d.
Paris wove Stays (all sizes), 4s. 11d., 8s. 6d., and 14s. 6d.
Coutil Stays, with Patent Front Fastenings, 8s. 6d., 10s. 6d., and 12s. 6d.
Coutil Stays Self-Lacing Front Fastenings, 10s. 6d., 12s. 6d., and 16s. 6d.
Crenoline Petticoats, 6s. 6d., 9s. 6d., and 12s. 6d.
May Meeting Guide, Gratis.

Address, Wm. Carter, 22, Ludgate-street, London.

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Bedsteads from £0 12 6 to £12 0 0 each.
Shower-baths, from 0 7 0 to 5 15 0 each.
Lamps (Moderateur), from 0 6 0 to 6 6 0 each.
All other kinds at the same rate.
Pure Colza Oil 4s. 8d. per gallon.

THE PERFECT SUBSTITUTE for SILVER.—The REAL NICKEL SILVER, introduced twenty years ago by WILLIAM S. BURTON, when plated by the patent of Messrs. Elkington and Co., is beyond all comparison the very best article next to sterling silver that can be employed as such, either usefully or ornamentally, as by no possible test can it be distinguished from real silver.

	Fiddle or Old Silver Pattern.	Thread or Brunswick Pattern.	King's Pattern.
Table Spoons and Forks, per dz.	38s.	48s.	60s.
Dessert ditto and ditto	20s.	25s.	42s.
Tea ditto	18s.	24s.	30s.

Tea and Coffee Sets, Waiters, Candlesticks, &c., at proportionate prices. All kinds of re-plating done by the patent process.

CHEMICALLY PURE NICKEL NOT PLATED.

	Fiddle.	Thread.	King's.
Table Spoons and Forks, per dozen	12s.	28s.	30s.
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